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Animal Journal

App. Sci

Farm and Ranch Review

VOLUME LI.
NUMBER 12

CALGARY, ALBERTA
DECEMBER, 1955

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A Merry Christmas To All

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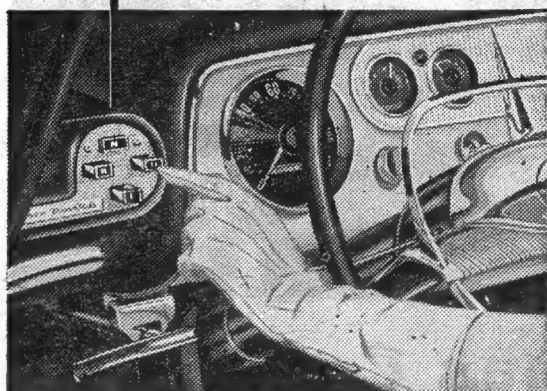


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Farm and Ranch Review

Western Canada's Pioneer Agricultural Magazine

Vol. LI.

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No. 12

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LATE FLASHES

"Agriculture is a declining and inefficient industry and on the average it is only half as productive as other industries. Agricultural policies should be directed to encourage the less productive farmers to find jobs elsewhere. Younger farmers should be persuaded to go into other industries." . . . Such was the text of the submission made to the Gordon Royal Commission by Dr. Gordon Burton, Claresholm, Alberta, rancher and former university professor, when the

sittings were held in Calgary. . . . We had the idea that farmers are too efficient . . . look at the grain stocks!

Rt. Hon. C. D. Howe, minister of trade and commerce, has an abiding faith in the Wheat Board's ability to handle the surplus wheat problem . . . any other way of selling the grain, he thinks would be disastrous . . . it would be folly to return to the price cutting of the 1930's, he says . . . extremely low prices for such an important commodity (as wheat) would benefit no one but would harm many . . . the United States will give wheat away to any nation that asks for it . . . but Canada continues to sell a respectable volume . . . Mr. Howe is not a believer in cutting acreage any further in Canada . . . says it would be giving up to competitors . . . he's not in favor of a two-price system . . . more money for wheat sold in the domestic market . . . says it would antagonize Canadian consumers too much . . . cites big row raised over bargain sale of butter.

At the International Wheat Conference at Geneva it was generally admitted that No. 1 northern Canadian wheat is the best in the world. An Italian delegate remarked: "It is the aristocrat of grains."

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If you are a victim of these symptoms then your troubles may be traced to Glandular Inflammation. Glandular Inflammation is a constitutional disease and medicines that give temporary relief will not remove the causes of your troubles.

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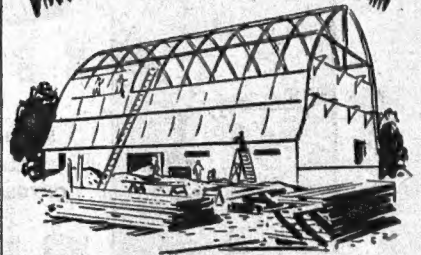
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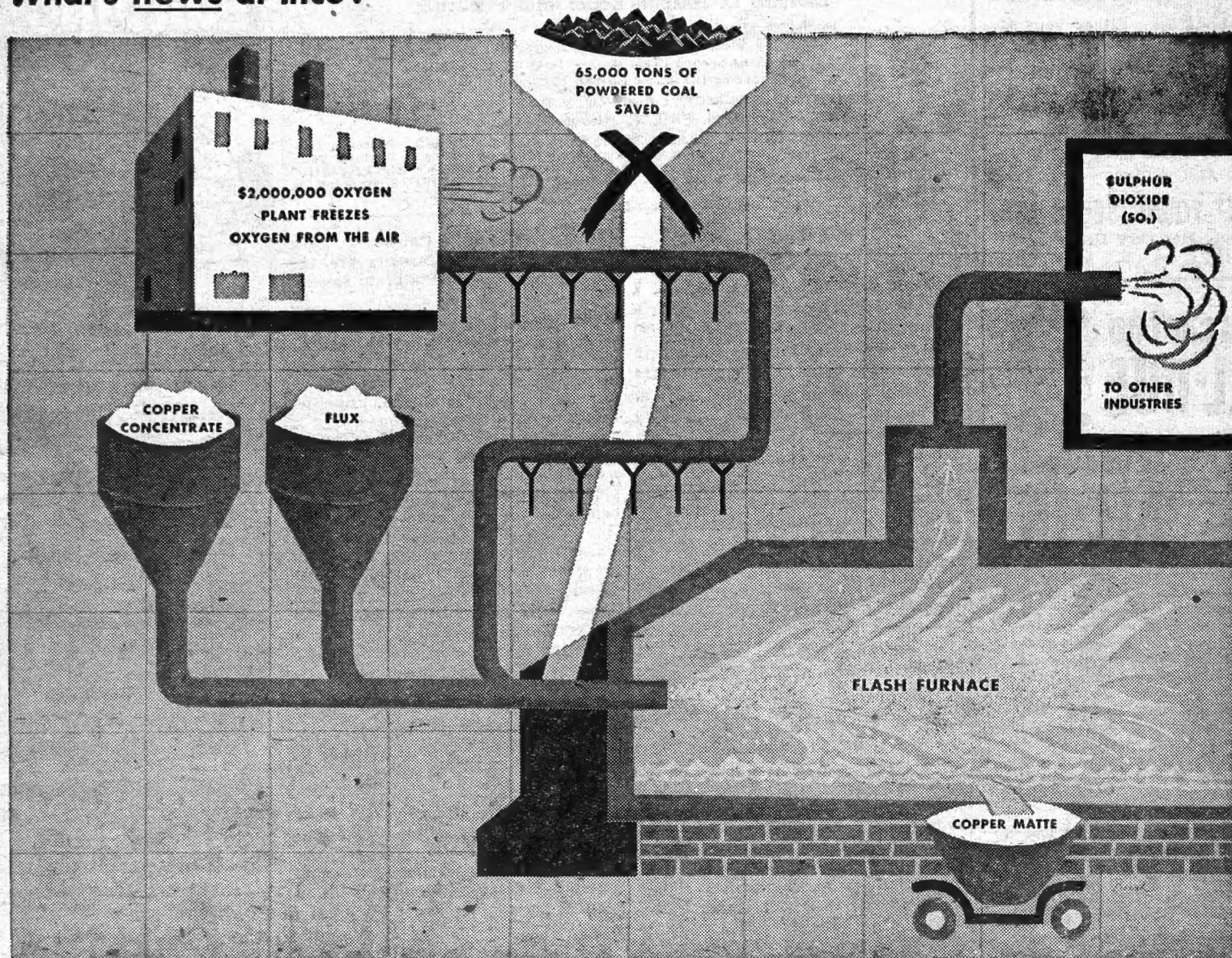
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process, sulphur and oxygen combine to form sulphur dioxide (SO_2). The sulphur dioxide is liquefied and sold for use in Canada's pulp and paper mills.

INCO RESEARCH HELPS STRENGTHEN CANADA'S ECONOMY

NEW FLASH SMELTING PROCESS SAVES 65,000 TONS OF COAL A YEAR

In the production of copper at Inco, smelting operations used to require approximately 65,000 tons of imported coal every year.

Now, Inco is smelting copper concentrates without coal. A patented flash smelting process, developed after years of Inco research and extensive pilot plant tests, produces copper matte more economically than ever before.

The principle of the new flash smelting process is based on the fact that sulphur and iron, when combined with sufficient oxygen, will burn with an intense heat.

Since the ores mined at Sudbury contain high percentages of both sulphur and iron, Inco devised this method of smelting the ore.

In the flash smelting process, Inco employs hydro-electric power to

freeze oxygen from the air. Coal is no longer necessary and sulphur is recovered as liquid sulphur dioxide. Hence, Inco's production costs are lower. Like so many other developments of Inco research the new flash smelting process has helped strengthen Canada's economic position in the world today.

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Farm and Ranch Review Editorials

The Western Viewpoint of The Crows Nest Pass Agreement

A CORRESPONDENT sent us a clipping from The Camrose Canadian which contained a letter written by the director of public relations for the Canadian National Railways dealing with the Crows' Nest Pass freight rates on export grain. He pointed out that the average revenue per ton mile of freight in the C.N. system was 1.529c in 1954, while traffic under the Crows' Nest rates averaged 0.496c, or less than one-third of the overall figure, which itself would have been 1.696c without the low rate grain traffic. What he was trying to show was that the hauling of export grain is unprofitable to the railways.

We sometimes wonder if the railways really know the actual cost of hauling export grain. They have been smart enough to organize rush movements in years when there is no tie-up, so that enormous quantities are moved expeditiously.

What would happen to the grain producers if the Crows' Nest agreement was thrown overboard is something we have an inkling about. At the present time the export rate on grain from Calgary to the Pacific coast is 20c a hundred pounds or 12c a bushel. The domestic rate is 54c a hundred pounds or 32.4c a bushel (and is due to rise in the near future). At the time of writing the difference is 20.4c a bushel or \$357.00 on a 1,750-bushel car. On the grain shipped eastward for export via Fort William - Port Arthur, the rise in cost would be the same proportionately, provided the export rate would be raised to the same level as the domestic rate. Admittedly such might not happen, but in 1921, when there was a temporary suspension of the Crows' Nest rates, the increase from Calgary to Fort William was 14.4c to 24.3c or close to 10c a bushel for wheat. Any such increases in freight rates on grain would add a financial burden on the grain producers which might run from \$40,000,000 to \$50,000,000 a year. With grain prices on the decline that would put a lot of farmers out of business.

The Crows' Nest Pass agreement is an arrangement between the government of Canada and the Canadian Pacific Railway, which went into effect in 1899. Under it the company agreed to maintain existing freight rates on export grain in perpetuity. It is now claimed the C.P.R. made a bad bargain but on the whole the railway company did quite well, over the years, out of the arrangement. The government did make changes in the agreement, too which were quite beneficial to the railways.

The "ace in the hole" possessed by the farmers of the west is that the agreement is embodied in an act of parliament and only parliament can make any change. The Prairie Provinces are so dependent on grain export for their living that any move by the House of Commons to jettison the agreement would create a storm of protest that would shake confederation to its foundations.

The grain producers of Western Canada must have extensive export markets to continue in business. But they produce grain in the heart of a continent,

many miles from water transportation. That situation is not duplicated anywhere else in the world. In Australia the grain producing regions are close to the coast. In Argentina the average grain rail haul is around 200 miles. In the United States the bulk of the wheat produced is consumed on the domestic markets and export grain goes via the Great Lakes, the Mississippi and the Pacific Coast.

The Crows' Nest Pass agreement is of vital importance to the economy of this region. It provides the only instance where a relatively low freight rate is guaranteed. If the agreement is abrogated the Prairie Provinces will be in real trouble.

The Story of Christmas Is One of Happiness

CHRISTMAS is a time for simple thinking, and not for elaborate discourses. There is nothing complex about happiness and at no other time in the year is there so much good feeling and joy.

This is best illustrated in the attitude of children towards Christmas, for the spirits of the young are not weighted down with the burden of worries and anxieties that passing years bring to older folks. Happiness springs spontaneously from the heart of youth at Christmas time, and this cheerfulness infects the atmosphere.

Christmas is especially a family day. Civilized society is most intense in the family group. The happiest families are those with all their members in the family circle at Yuletide. Those who cannot get back home for Christmas have their hearts cheered by memories of other years. They can cherish from the vanished years a warming recollection that holds the heart steady and the mind clear to those irrevocable affections.

While Christmas centres in the family, the joy and mirth overflows to friends and neighbors. On every side is heard the cheerful greetings, the happy phrase. Charles Dickens well exemplified the feeling in his "A Christmas Carol", which is reprinted in newspapers, recited at concerts and carried over the radio to an attentive world every Christmastide. "God bless us, everyone!" said Tiny Tim, and the whole English-speaking Christian world repeats it in chorus.

The story of the original Christmas, as told in the Bible, has never been improved upon by all the eminent writers and theologians who have lived since the time of Christ. In simple, moving phrases the Bible relates how a star swung majestically across the heavens and paused over a stable in Bethlehem where Christ was born. Then the Wise Men of the East came to pay their homage to the new-born King, the first of many millions to bend before the power and beauty of the Christian ideal. On the hills were the shepherds for whom the veil of eternity lifted so that the immortal choir sang to them of the good tidings which were to sustain mankind for centuries to come.

It is a wonderful story whose message swings down the corridors of time, encouraging and inspiring countless generations.

The Grain Loan Plan Is Temporary Measure

THE federal government has made an arrangement with Canadian banks for the providing of loans to farmers on the security of grain in farm bins. This plan is now in effect but the legislation authorizing same has yet to be passed. Each farmer will be entitled to borrow up to \$1,500 at a rate of 5 per cent.

While the farmers of Western Canada are carrying the burden of the existing grain surpluses awaiting a market in which every other competitor is subsidized, the chartered banks of Canada, enjoying a prosperity unequalled in their history, which is reflected in stock splits and increased dividends to shareholders, are charging a five per cent rate on loans to these farmers, which are guaranteed by the government, secured by wheat in farm bins and repayable out of half the farmers' first deliveries. Compare this situation with loans by the same banks on urban housing at 5 per cent. One president of a great Canadian bank declared an interest rate of 5½ per cent on such loans to be unrealistic (meaning too high).

Canada has now two wheat crops in hand. The federal government must devise some plan to cut down production next year. It may be by bonussing summer-fallowing and the planting of humus-restoring crops, such as was done during the war. In any event dependence cannot be placed on the prospect that next year will be a droughty one.

The provincial governments of the Prairie Provinces never hesitate to suggest to the federal government various ideas as to how Western farmers may be helped in the present dilemma. One way the provincial governments, themselves, can help is to devise methods of cutting down farm taxation. Such is a heavy burden on farm people at the present time.

British Columbia's interior valleys have produced a wonderful crop of fine quality apples this year. Western Canadian people should take advantage of the lush production and eat more apples. There is no finer fruit and the apple juice produced in the Okanagan Valley makes a delightful and health-maintaining drink.

In an address to the American Life convention in Chicago, Douglas Gibson, economist with the Bank of Nova Scotia, stated that the underlying trend of economic life in Canada is still decidedly upward and there are no present indications of an ending to the current boom conditions.

Ex-president Harry Truman, of the United States, touched a sensitive point to Canadians in his printed memoirs. He said this country received "lease lend" aid from the U.S.A. Actually Canada provided military materials and services to the United States of \$3,675,000 in excess of what this country obtained from its big neighbor. Payment to Canada was made in 1949.

The Beauty of the Western Twilight

AUTUMN is ending, winter is approaching and the evenings are becoming shorter. But we still have our beautiful western twilight with its varying shades of vivid colors saturating the high arch of the sky.

Twilight is one of the most beautiful words in the English language, and twilight on a quiet evening is a beautiful time of day. The restless winds are quieted and so are the restless spirits. "Twilight and evening star and after that the dark," and then the brilliancy of the stars in the western skies.

But the daylight lingers for a brief spell, as if sorry to have shown up the flaws of the world and as if it wishes to re-touch the picture with the "softness like the atmosphere of dreams." But the dullest outlook, the emptiest prairie, the dingiest street, has a certain charm in the magic of the incoming twilight.

Twilight is homecoming time. The worker, the playful child, at eventide come homing like birds hurrying to their nests. The light in the window beams a welcome. Warmth and sympathy waits for the world-worn, rest for the weary, slippers for the tired feet. The air is fragrant with the aroma of food for the hungry. And after the evening meal and the children's hour then lullabies and peace.

Freight Assistance on Feed Grains Beneficial

SINCE 1941 the federal government has been paying substantial sums annually as a contribution to the cost of transporting feed grain from the Prairie Provinces to Eastern Canada and British Columbia. The government, at the last session of parliament, reduced its annual contribution. The question is discussed in an article in another section of this issue, wherein the Canadian Federation of Agriculture outlines the reasons for its support of the policy.

We favor the freight assistance plan as being beneficial to agriculture in all parts of Canada. We do not subscribe to the narrow view that cheap feed grains should be the exclusive prerogative of the stock growers in the Prairie Provinces. Under no circumstances will the bulk of Canada's meat, dairy and poultry requirements ever be produced in the Prairie Provinces. Furthermore, other provinces are big buyers of western feeder stock.

Many years ago when barley and oats were piling up in unsaleable surpluses in the west the Wheat Pools spent a big sum of money in experiments conducted at Macdonald College, Quebec, which effectively demonstrated that barley and oats are the very best feed for the production of fine quality pork. As a result Eastern Canadian hog producers switched from the feeding of corn to the use of western feed grains. That change, together with the freight assistance policy, resulted in the disposal of 36 million tons of feed grains, produced in the Prairie Provinces, to Eastern Canada and British Columbia feeders over a 14-year period. An important outlet for the west's surplus oats

and barley had been created. The hope is that the federal government will maintain its freight assistance policy as a contribution to the best interests of the entire nation.

* * *

Wheat Prices Are Made By Governments

THE absurdity of the suggestion of a return to the open market for the selling of Canadian grain is evidenced by a report produced by the United States Department of Agriculture which showed that more than 96 per cent of the wheat produced in the world was marketed under government price supports in the 1954 crop year.

Guaranteed prices to wheat producers in the various countries ranged from 97c a bushel in Iran to \$4.50 a bushel in Chile. Canada's guaranteed price of \$1.40 a bushel is the second lowest in the world, and that of Australia, \$1.41, the third lowest.

Government guaranteed prices in other nations in the 1954-55 crop year: United States, \$2.24; Great Britain, \$2.30; Belgium, \$2.56; France, \$2.64; Argentina, \$2.72; Portugal, \$2.85; Uruguay, \$2.96; West Germany, \$2.83; Italy, \$3.05; Finland, \$3.95; Norway, \$3.43; Switzerland, \$4.19.

The open market system with its dependence on speculation could not possibly operate under the conditions outlined.

* * *

Unclean Literature Should Be Banned

IT would seem that obscenity is required to sell modern books and authors and publishers in too many instances are encouraging the trend. A few weeks ago the reeve of a municipality in Ontario urged that such books be banned from the public library. Now the Roman Catholic Women's League in Ontario has launched a campaign against such filthy literature.

Proponents of such modernistic literature are up in arms. They say "prudish" people have no business whatever in interfering with the rights of authors to write what they please and the freedom of publishers to print the same.

Personally we side with those who favor decency in literature. Some of the modern "best sellers" we have perused reek with pruriency and are studded with blatant blasphemy. Is that the type of literature which the Christian parents of this nation would prefer to introduce into their homes for good reading for their children? We think not!

Maybe some of the modernistic critics think the Ten Commandments outdated, and that it is smart to "take the name of the Lord Thy God in vain". Maybe they are of the opinion that the relation of morbid sexual incidents is enlightening to the children of today. But we believe that a virtuous populace is the nation's great core of strength and virtue must come from the home and the teachings of the child at the mother's knee.

It is a criminal offence to distribute lecherous photographs. But obscene books find a ready sale. We fail to see the

reason for the discrimination. One is as bad as the other.

In this country parents, and particularly mothers, want to raise their children in a decent atmosphere, encouraging them to have clean minds and thoughts, and a sound training in the ethics of the Christian religion. It is with that understanding that we are opposed to the general distribution of unclean literature.

* * *

United States Competition Is Hampering Our Wheat Sales

THE "basement bargain" method followed by the United States in an effort to get rid of its wheat surplus in export markets cost Canada the export sale of about fifty million bushels of wheat last crop year. Every indication points to the probability that such methods are being continued this crop year.

Canadian government protests against such grain selling methods haven't made a dint in Washington. Mr. Benson is going ahead to slough the U.S. surplus in export markets by giveaways, cut prices, acceptance of the importing countries' currencies, or in any other way he can think of.

Mr. Benson even threatened Western European nations with the suggestion that U.S.A. economic aid might be cut off if markets were not opened freely to wheat imports. Yet in the first six months of this year Western Europe imports from the United States had a value of \$2,000,000,000, while the U.S.A. imported from that area goods to the value of only \$1,199,000,000, a balance in favor of the United States of \$891,000,000.

The export of wheat is vitally important to Canadian economic life. About 80 per cent of the nation's wheat surplus must find outlets in export markets. The present piled up surplus of wheat in the Dominion is a threat to the well-being of the nation. The ruthless wheat-marketing policy of the United States is creating a serious hardship to Canada.

Among all nations of the world Canada is the United States' best friend and best customer. In many ways, however, this country is being treated as a poor relative by its rich neighbor.

In the first half of this year Canada's imports from the United States had a value of \$1,550,000,000, which is more than the entire exports of the U.S.A. to the South American continent.

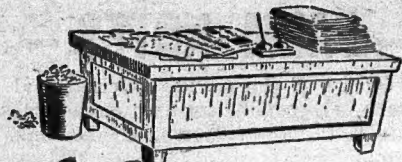
In the same period Canadian exports to the United States had a value of \$1,258,000,000, so that our country had an unfavorable trade balance of \$292,000,000 for the six months.

Mark this! The welfare of Canada depends upon getting rid of the nation's surplus wheat. Soft talk is not going to have any effect on the United States.

* * *

FOR 35 years George E. De Long has been superintendent of the Dominion Experimental Farm at Lacombe, Alberta. He is now in retirement.

George De Long has done a very fine job at Lacombe in the long years he had charge of that station. He and his associates have rendered exceptional services to the agricultural industry, and particularly that of Central Alberta.



The Editor's Desk

What are the happiest and the cheeriest words in the English language? I have read where famous men expressed their opinions in answers to that question. None of them gave the words I would choose—"A Merry Christmas!"

This would indeed be a sad world if there was no Christmas season. It is at Christmas time that mankind's better nature triumphs and, for a brief spell, the Christian world comes nearest to following the teachings of the Man of Galilee.

In the last issue of the Farm and Ranch Review I asked readers to write and tell me what they think of the crossword puzzle. I have had a number of letters but not as many as I expected. One lady tells me that the crossword puzzle and Aunt Sal are her main interests in this publication. What do you think?

Sorry to record the retirement of Geo. DeLong from the superintendency of the Lacombe Experimental Farm. He put in 35 useful years on that job. J. G. Stothart, an up-and-coming young man, is his successor.

The agricultural industry needs good men in important positions. Alberta lost a top-notch when O. S. Longman retired as deputy minister of agriculture. Aubrey Weir, for years head of the federal government seed branch in Calgary, also rendered exceptional services to farm people and now he has entered the limbo of retirement.

C. M. Learmonth, who made a splendid contribution to Saskatchewan agriculture for 38 years, the best years of his life, also went into retirement this year. The services rendered by this man cannot be measured in dollars and cents!

Too many indistinct snapshots are being mailed to me. Such cannot be reprinted. Snaps should be close-up and clear.

Saskatchewan's attorney general, I. W. Corman warns drinking car drivers who persist in jeopardizing the lives of others and think they will get off with a \$50 fine are due for a rude awakening—they may find themselves in jail even for a first offence. Car accident fatalities have passed the 100 mark for the year in that province.

Thomas Hewines, of Oyen, says the poor quality of bakers' bread keeps down consumption in Canada, and if good bread was produced the wheat surplus would soon disappear. I'm not fussy about bakers' bread, either, but it is the export, not the domestic market, that counts. Canadians eat only about 50,000,000 bushels of wheat in various forms each year. The Canadian wheat supply this year is 990,000,000 bushels.

A plug for honey. It is a very nutritious food, gives about 1½ times the energy value of sugar, and contains a variety of mineral elements and traces of vitamins, which are not contained in sugar.

"Silent Night"

Of all the hymns that are sung at Christmastime probably the most popular is the beautiful "Silent Night". But the words and melody were composed, well over a century ago, under conditions that were far from calm and bright.

Franz Gruber was organist in a tiny church in the village of Arnsdorf, near Salsburg, high in the Tyrolean Alps. He had made elaborate preparations for Christmas music only to find that, on the day before, the church organ was broken. Repairs from outside were impossible to obtain as a violent storm was raging.

Gruber appealed to Joseph Mohr, the assistant priest, to write a few simple verses that could be quickly set to music and memorized.

The story goes that Father Mohr was called upon that evening to administer the last rites to a dying woman. The storm had abated and on his way home he paused on the heights above the village to contemplate the scene. Below the village lay in darkness but all around a faint light limned the mountains and a vast stillness held him in awe.

Contemplating the scene Father Mohr conceived the idea that the shepherds may have envisioned a similar scene from the Judean hills on that holy night when Christ was born. Tremendously moved he hurried home and wrote the verses of that serene hymn which we call Silent Night.

Organist Gruber arranged a simple melody which was played on a guitar and that midnight the congregation listened to the first playing of a hymn that has since been played, probably millions of times.

A few days later Franz Gruber, the organ repaired, tried it out by playing the hymn. The listening repair man from nearby Zillerthal was so impressed that he obtained a copy to take home. It was sung by a group of Zillerthal singers, who were famous in that part of the country, and thus started on its travels around the world.

The popularity of Silent Night in English-speaking North America probably gained the greatest impetus a generation ago when the magnificent voice of Madame Schumann-Heink carried it over the air waves every Christmas season. In these times the humble hymn, created in an emergency in a small community hidden in the high Alps, is sung in every Christian land.

The Christmas Visitor

(Selected)

He comes in the night! He comes in the night!

He softly, silently comes;
While the little brown heads on the pillows so white

Are dreaming of bugles and drums.
He cuts through the snow like a ship through the foam

While the white flakes around him swirl;

Who tells him I know not but he findeth the home

Of each good little boy and girl.
He rides to the East and he rides to the West,

Of his goodies he touches not one,
He eateth the crumbs of the Christmas feast

When the dear little folks are done.
Old Santa Claus doeth all he can;

That beautiful mission is his;
Then children, be good to the little, old man,

When you find who the little man is.



to the highest bidder

More than 85% of the hogs sold in Canada last year by Canadian farmers moved direct to market with no stopover between farm and packing plant. About 71% of sheep and lambs, 54% of calves and 34% of cattle were also marketed this way. The

remainder, except for those slaughtered locally or shipped direct for export, were sold through public stockyards. During the past fifteen years the proportion of animals marketed one way as compared to another has varied little.



Short cuts in the marketing process began about thirty years ago. The trend towards direct marketing developed with progress in transportation and communications. More and better roads now make it possible to

move smaller lots of livestock swiftly and economically by truck. Speedy and accurate price reporting, especially by radio, keeps the farmer as well informed as if he were at the yards himself.



New plants have been built, some away from the central markets. Besides providing more outlets, these newer markets are located in the heart of producing areas. All packers now must reach back into the country for supplies, competing for livestock with as much rivalry, though less appar-

ent, as they do on the yards. The farmer, well informed on the state of the market through the rapid communications of the times, can either negotiate a direct sale to the highest bidder or ship to the public stockyards on consignment to a commission agent.



While direct selling of all classes of livestock has developed to considerable proportions by a process of evolution, the stockyards continue their very important functions. With their facilities for sorting and holding mixed lots, some of which may be destined for further feeding or export, the yards are the major outlet for many producers. They are also a major source of supply for many slaughterers. Thus, the values and price trends registered on the stockyards become a yardstick for the entire industry.

The reason why farmers and co-operatives have chosen to sell more hogs "direct" than through the yards or other channels is because the method is particularly suited to that class of livestock. Carcass grading determines quality and weights, leaving only the matter of price to be negotiated between buyer and seller. Shipping direct reduces shrinkage, eliminates feeding off the farm, reduces bruising, crippling and death losses in transit and keeps handling costs to a minimum.



"DOC" BROWNELL'S CORNER

Back on the home farm, when my dad had livestock to sell he and his neighbours were always figuring how they could get the best prices. Times have not changed in this respect. Every producer is looking for the best price he can get. He wants to have alternate methods of marketing available so that he can pick the one that

will net him the highest return less costs of shipping and handling. Nobody is in a better position to judge which method suits him than the farmer himself. The amount of money which direct marketing or some other method puts into the producer's pocket book decides which method he uses.

Copies of our "Letter on Canadian Livestock Products" are available on request.

MEAT PACKERS COUNCIL OF CANADA
200 BAY ST., TORONTO 1

Freight Assistance on Feed Grains

THE federal government's policy of paying freight assistance on shipments of feed grains from the Prairie Provinces of the west to Eastern Canada and British Columbia has been in existence for 14 years, since October, 1941. In that period some 36,000,000 tons of feed grains have been moved from the Prairie Provinces and the federal government's contribution has been about \$235,000,000.

This year there has been a cut in the percentage of assistance provided by the government and there seems to be a possibility that the entire plan will be discontinued. The Canadian Federation of Agriculture has therefore made a presentation to Rt. Hon. J. G. Gardiner, in support of the policy and outlining its advantages. The C.F.A. has consistently supported freight assistance on feed grains.

Following are extracts from the Federation's presentation:

Over the 14 years the production of livestock, poultry and dairy products in Canada has grown, and the market for western feed has grown with it. Outside of the prairie provinces the feeding of western oats has increased by about 30 million bushels annually; barley feeding has increased by about 18½ million bushels and wheat feeding has gone up 13 million bushels.

National Policy Needed

The feed freight assistance policy is one example, among many, of the measures that must be taken by Canada as a result of the extremely difficult economic conditions created by its geography. It has been necessary, in Canada, to specially tailor the freight rate structure in such a way as to try and partially offset the economic effects of the very long distances between the different parts of the country. In the case of feed grains, the prairie provinces are highly adapted to the growing of grain and the rest of the country is adapted largely to livestock and is a large natural market for feed grain. If the Maritime provinces, Ontario, Quebec and British Columbia are to be expected to look to western Canada as a natural source of feed grain then it is clear that a national policy of charging the people of Canada generally with part of the cost of shipping these grains both east and west from the prairies is a logical arrangement.

The exact effects of feed freight assistance are difficult to determine. For the most part, of course, it may be said that it reduces the cost of feed grains to the eastern producer. At the same time, a relatively steady and substantial market for coarse grains is created and this is clearly of considerable benefit to the western farmer. This is particularly true when these grains are marketed by the Canadian Wheat Board under conditions that enables it to base its marketing policy on fairly long-term considerations of market prospects.

A Healthy Development

The existing policy, then, is one roughly speaking of putting those areas of Canada which raise livestock for their own domestic needs in positions of equal ability to pay for western grain for a part of their feed supplies. The Canadian Federation of Agriculture, representing all the provinces, fully supports this policy, on the ground that it greatly assists a healthy and stable development of the agricultural resources of the entire country.

Looking at the total annual cost of freight assistance, which has been running at well under \$20 million a year, and will now be further reduced, it is clear that its effects in helping to keep livestock production in Can-

ada following a stable and balanced pattern, far overshadows its cost to the public treasury. In the event of the removal of feed freight assistance there would be an upheaval in which the incomes of most livestock producers would be reduced, and in which many would be ruined. This would be followed by serious efforts by producers to find alternative means of maintaining their operations at a level sufficient to utilize the resources of their farms and their own labor. Instability in the volume of livestock production would be increased, in an industry which is already burdened with excessive instability. The only certain result for the western farmer would be a loss of an important market for his grain. Any added impetus to western livestock production would show up only intermittently, with little permanent benefit to the livestock industry of western Canada.

Harvesting Time

By ANNIE L. GAETZ

Yes, times have changed since the early days, and things are different now.

We used to tramp from dawn to dusk, in the trail of a walking plow, And in the harvest work, we always neighbored forth and back, And never thought of threshing, till the grain was in the stack.

—R. J. C. Stead.

THRESHING is not what it used to be in the days of our grandmothers. In times past they didn't bring along a bunkhouse to house the gang; but they gathered a crew of about twelve men and beds were spread all over the house to accommodate them. The family — well, they went to the attic and slept on the rag bag as often as not.

The arrival of the threshers was the event of the year in rural communities. It was the subject of discussion for a month or so before they arrived, and even for a longer time after their departure. Unless you have been a part of these bygone hectic days, unless you have had a share in providing for the threshers, you have missed out on one of the most colorful, most exciting experiences that rural life has to offer.

Excitement ran high when the small boy perched on top of the farm gate to get the first glimpse of the harvesters, rushed to the kitchen door shouting, "Threshers are coming!" There was never a dull moment from the time they turned in the gate till the last sheaf had gone through the mill and they took their departure. The threshers finished, they moved on, and you felt like one who had run a long race. After they had left, nothing else mattered except that you be left in peace for a few days. Even the fact that all the family skeletons had been exposed, mattered not at all. Perhaps grandmother was an indifferent housekeeper, a poor manager or a sketchy cook. These things plagued her no end before the threshers arrived. After they had gone, the shortcomings were forgotten. The threshers had gone and the house was hers once more and nothing else mattered.

But the threshing is not what it used to be. Grandmother got out her best long linen tablecloths, her good extra towels; she baked great loaves of bread, and at least, a clothes basket full of doughnuts, to say nothing for rows and rows of pumpkin and apple pies on the cellar shelves. She

made crocks of cookies, and grandmother was most lavish with her cakes, and the choicest chickens were made ready for the roasting pan. Grandmother was not going to have it said that the neighbors did better by the threshers than she did.

Regardless of her preparations, the threshers seemed to creep up on her. They were at her house, clamoring for a meal, and something had been forgotten, or left undone. Last minute things were attended to, wash basins and towels put on the back bench for the men, the wood box was heaped high and the wash boilers filled with water, and a mad rush was made to the garden for more vegetables, especially potatoes.

Today, neighbors usually make up the threshing gang. They go home at night, and usually get their breakfast before returning to work in the morning. Instead of getting out her best linen tablecloths — the threshers wouldn't appreciate them anyway — the farmer's wife spreads the table with oilcloth that can be wiped up in a jiffy, or, she covers the table with cheap wall paper and burns it after each evening meal. She is not so lavish with cakes and cookies as grandmother was; but she does provide the men with lots of meat and vegetables and salads, served in various ways to make them seem like something different.

Although threshing is not what it used to be, it still remains the event of the year to which rural folks look forward with anticipation, for it marks the culmination of the year's work. It is still exciting while it lasts, for each threshing day unfolds its comedy and its tragedy, providing material for many a good laugh and a few regrets.

Choosing The Farm Tractor

THE diesel tractor will supply the most economical power when it is used for at least 500 hours or more per year on the farm. A diesel tractor used for 500 hours per year will more than take care of the higher original cost by fuel savings over a period of five to six years. When less hours are worked per season the high compression gasoline tractor would be the most suitable choice.

The diesel tractor at present fuel prices supplies the most economical power. The over-all saving secured is a result of the lower fuel bill. This saving is obtained because of the lower fuel bill. This saving is obtained because of the lower price per gallon as well as the lower fuel consumption per hour. Attention then should be given to the fuel consumption of both gasoline and diesel tractors as well as the price. This information can be found in the Nebraska Tests, if the tractors have been tested. A fuel spread of at least five cents a gallon should prevail before buying a diesel tractor.

If possible, a tractor should be chosen of such a size that its load for most of the time will be at or near the rated load for best economy. Either over or under powering results in an uneconomical farm unit. Consult the Nebraska Test figures when selecting the size. Be careful to use the rated load rather than the maximum load figures. Horse-power requirements for hilly or soft footing conditions should be increased approximately 25 per cent to insure adequate power.

Nebraska Test Ratings and a mimeographed publication entitled, "Comparison of Power Costs of Tractors" may be obtained from the Dominion Experimental Farm, Swift Current, Saskatchewan.

— FARM NOTES —

Over half the world's international trade is in pounds sterling. Great Britain is the key nation in the sterling group.

* * *

Average protein content of the West's wheat crop is 13 per cent, compared with 12.6 in 1954. The protein content is the highest since 1951.

* * *

Production of durum wheat in the west this year is placed at 17,200,000 bushels. Manitoba produced 11,300,000 bushels; Alberta, 5,600,000, and Saskatchewan, 300,000.

* * *

Delegates at the annual meeting of Manitoba Pool Elevators voted almost unanimously for cash advances on stored grain, through the Wheat Board.

* * *

Manitoba Pool Elevators donated \$20,000 to the agricultural faculty of the University of Manitoba for work in crop improvement. This will be payable at the rate of \$5,000 a year for four years.

* * *

Last year 421,000 hogs were marketed in Saskatchewan compared with 1,500,000 in Alberta. Saskatchewan hog producers may raise production to around 1,000,000 because of the abundance of feed grains.

* * *

The Japanese are using more barley as food. The grain is steamed, peeled and mixed with rice. The Japanese delegation which recently toured Western Canada said the demand was for a slim barley rather than a plump variety. They liked Olli.

* * *

A new type of turkey has been developed at the University of Saskatchewan. The females weigh from 12 to 14 lbs. and the toms from 18 to 22 lbs., at market age. Prof. W. J. Rae, of the poultry department, says the bird is well fleshed and likely to be popular.

* * *

The Lacombe Experimental Farm is undertaking an experiment to find out the value of "green manuring" — plowing under sweet clover as a soil improver. Henry Friesen, agronomist, is in charge of the project. The sweet clover will be handled in four different ways. It will be cut for hay and plowed immediately, cut for hay and plowed in mid-September, plowed down when 18 inches tall, and plowed down when in full bloom. The wheat after fallow or sweet clover will be seeded both with and without 50 lbs. per acre of ammonium phosphate 11-48-0.

* * *

CALGARY STAMPEDE PROFIT

The Calgary Stampede's operations for the year ended September 30 showed a profit of \$296,129.00. As the sum of \$244,330.70 was spent on plant and buildings, the net was \$51,799.91.

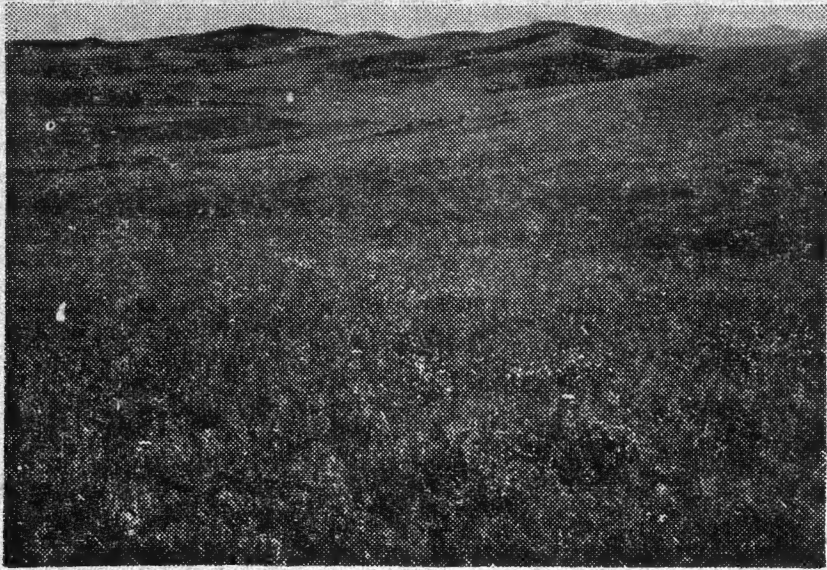
The attendance mark was 520,000, an all-time record, of which 57 per cent came from Calgary and district, 17 per cent from Alberta, other than Calgary, 18 per cent from Canada, other than Alberta, 6 per cent from the United States and 2 per cent from elsewhere.

Out of the province, Canadians were represented by 30 per cent from British Columbia, 17 per cent from Saskatchewan and 22 per cent from other parts of Canada.

* * *

The King Ranch in Texas covers one million acres. The Wave Hill Ranch in Australia covers four million acres.

"Grass—The Forgiveness of Nature"



Grass in the Southern Alberta foothills.

From JOHN J. INGALLS,
Late United States Senator
Contributed with photos by Bert T.
Smith, High River, Alta.

NEXT in importance to the divine profession of water, light, and air, those three physical facts which render existence possible, may be reckoned the universal beneficence of grass. Living in the sunshine among the buttercups and dandelions of May, scarcely higher in intelligence than the minute tenants of that mimic wilderness, our earliest recollections are of grass; and when the fitful fever is ended, and the foolish wrangle of the market and forum is closed, grass heals over the scar which our descent into the bosom of the earth has made, and the carpet of the infant becomes the blanket of the dead.

Grass is the forgiveness of Nature—her constant benediction. Fields trampled with battle, saturated with blood, torn with ruts of cannon, grow green again with grass, and carnage is forgotten. Streets abandoned by traffic become grass-grown, like rural lanes, and are obliterated. Forests

decay, harvests perish, flowers vanish, but grass is immortal. Beleaguered by the sullen hosts of winter it withdraws into the impregnable fortress of its subterranean vitality and emerges upon the solicitation of spring. Sown by the winds, by wandering birds, propagated by the subtle horticulture of the elements which are its ministers and servants, it softens the rude outlines of the world. It invades the solitude of deserts, climbs the inaccessible slopes and pinnacles of mountains, and modifies the history, character and destiny of nations.

Unobtrusive and patient, it has immortal vigor and aggression. Banished from the thoroughfares and fields, it hides its time to return, and when vigilance is relaxed or the dynasty has perished, it silently resumes the throne from which it has been expelled but which it never abdicates. It bears no blazonry of bloom to charm the senses with fragrance or splendor, but its homely hue is more enchanting than the lily or the rose. It yields no fruit in earth or air, yet should its harvest fail for a single year famine would depopulate the earth."

— FARM NOTES —

Claude Gallinger, of Edmonton, noted breeder of Shorthorn cattle, sold his half-section farm near Edmonton for \$600,000 to a construction company. He still owns a farm at Tofield and a ranch in the Nanton district.

C. L. Barber, associate professor of economics at the University of Manitoba, in an article in Queen's University Quarterly, predicts that the current upsurge of prosperity will last from one to two years and will be followed by a depression which will not be as bad as that of the early 1930's.

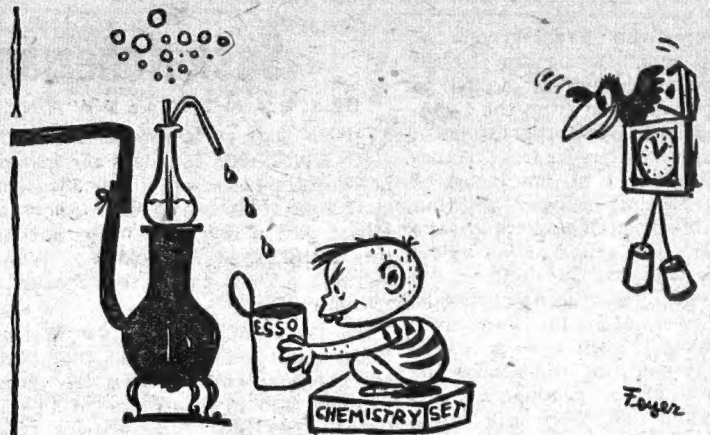
In 1954 the United States exports totalled \$13.5 billions and imports \$10.2 billions, providing a favorable trade balance of \$3.3 billions. How long can the world's largest creditor nation, and the world's richest, maintain such a huge favorable trade balance?

Production of flaxseed in the Prairie Provinces in 1955 is estimated at 21,000,000, compared with 10,950,000 bushels in 1954. There has been a good demand for flax, the oil of which is used as a base for paints, oils and varnishes. The building boom accentuated demand. Saskatchewan's flax production is placed at 13,600,000 bushels, that of Manitoba at 4,600,000 and Alberta 3,000,000.

Canada imported 5½ million lbs. of turkey from the United States last year. Canadian turkey producers will have to finish their turkeys earlier and more will have to be marketed in an oven-ready condition to compete with U.S. turkey imports.

Canadian Holsteins dominated the show at the annual exhibition at Bogota, the capital city of Colombia. Twelve of the 17 individual classes and all four group classes were headed by animals either imported from Canada or of Canadian blood-lines. Both the grand and reserve grand champion females were Canadian-bred cows.

No release of sows of the new Lacombe breed of hogs will be made for some time. Testing will be continued at Lacombe, Scott and Indian Head experimental farms and the program for testing boars on selected farms in Central Alberta will be expanded. Half the sow herd will be bred to a boar of the Lacombe breed and the remaining half to a boar of another breed. This will provide information as to the ability of the breed to cross with commercial herds. It is expected that the breed will exhibit hybrid vigor when crossed with the York hog. A committee has been appointed to act in an advisory capacity to oversee testing of the new breed. The chairman is W. H. T. Mead, Alberta livestock commissioner.



HOW MANY MINUTES PER GALLON?

Of course, you **don't** have to make gasoline yourself. But you **do** have to work at your job to make the money to buy gasoline. And today you don't have to work nearly as long as you did in 1939, or even 1946.

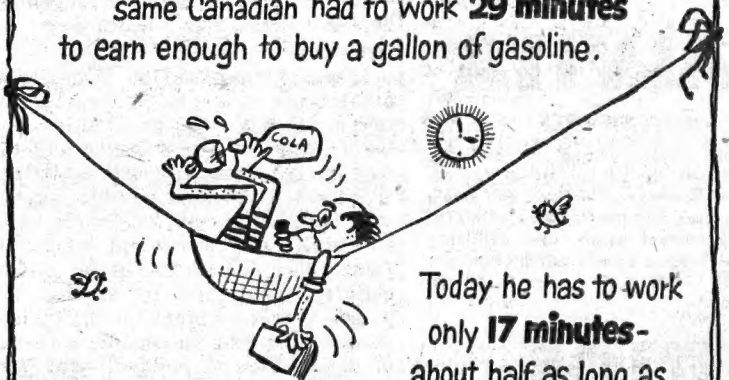


Back in 1939, the average Canadian had to work **33 minutes** to earn enough to buy a gallon of gasoline.



Seven years later, in 1946, the

same Canadian had to work **29 minutes** to earn enough to buy a gallon of gasoline.



Today he has to work only **17 minutes**—about half as long as in 1939—to buy a gallon of gasoline.

(It's much **better** gasoline, too. Two gallons of today's gasoline does the work of three gallons made in the 20's.)



IMPERIAL OIL LIMITED

Westerners who have visions of oceangoing ships sailing up the St. Lawrence and the Great Lakes to take cargoes of grain from the Lakehead, are doomed to disappointment. Hon. George Marler, federal transport minister, said in the house of commons that the seaway will not upset the traditional pattern of lake boats carrying grain from Fort William-Port Arthur to Montreal for transshipment to ocean vessels. Howard Green, M.P. for Vancouver Quadra, asked if such were so where would the benefits of the seaway be to western grain producers. Mr. Marler replied that there still would be tangible benefits, as big lake boats would be able to sail down the St. Lawrence, making it unnecessary to transfer cargoes to small river boats.



REX OIL

proven breeding aid

Used successfully for more than 20 years as a breeding aid for cattle, horses, swine and poultry. Supplies essential "Fresh Feed Factors", including Vitamin E, that aid in the prevention and treatment of non-organic breeding disorders. Enthusiastically endorsed by thousands of livestock owners. Try it today—satisfaction guaranteed or money refunded.

CALVITA

calf savers

Every calf is born Vitamin A deficient. Calvita supplies the full amounts of Vitamins A & D, and Niacin required by a calf during the dangerous first three weeks of life to prevent nutritional scours and deficiency diseases. Don't lose a single calf this season—Administer Calvita Calf Savers to all this year's crop.

RIDS

stops infectious calf scours

When White calf scours strike, use Rids, the original streptomycin product formulated to stop scours before serious losses result. Keep a package on hand—they may save you a valuable calf this year.

IRON-EZE

prevents swine anemia

Pigs are born iron deficient which if not corrected results in anemia, scours and hairless pigs. Supply this important factor plus essential copper and Vitamin B Complex vitamins the EZE liquid-spray way. Use Iron-Eze weekly—it will help the entire litter on less feed. Costs only 1¢ per pig per week until weaned.

From local drug or feed store,
Free literature on request.

VioBIN (CANADA) LTD.

ST. THOMAS, ONT.

V67

Saskatchewan's Mr. Rancher

By GRANT MACEWAN

WHEN Olafson Herefords, from Old Wives, won the class for groups of two-year-old steers at the 33rd Annual Saskatchewan Feeder Show at Moose Jaw a few weeks ago, spectators were heard to exclaim: "What, again?" And then they asked: "Where's Ole?"

At the first Moose Jaw Feeder Show and Sale held in 1923, Olaf Olafson's cattle were among the prize winners and in every one of the 32 years since that time, entries from the Olafson Ranch, south of Mortlach, wearing the N7F brand have been shown. No other ranch or farm has such a long record of Feeder Show participation and none has won as many prizes and championships. And attending the 1955 show and sale at Moose Jaw, as usual, was Mr. Olafson, better known as Ole, now in his 89th year. His eyesight has failed and he is denied the inspiration that long came from seeing superior quality in the cattle entries but in his voice there persisted that vigor and counsel that made him a leader.

As one of the founders of the Feeder Show and its most ardent supporter through the years, he has attended every annual event and been the one most determined to "carry on" when success was threatened by October storms, strikes, feed famines, shipping difficulties, ruinous prices, a foot-and-mouth disease year and, in the past season, a serious stock-yard fire which necessitated rebuilding the premises where the annual Feeder Show is held.

In 1933, Olaf Olafson sold cattle at Moose Jaw for 2½ cents a pound and in 1951, he saw a group of his calves establish a Feeder Show record of 43 cents a pound. Such range of prices was some indication of the ups and downs experienced by the Icelandic immigrant who arrived at Brandon in 1887 and tried various jobs before recognizing a challenge in the unoccupied grasslands south-west of Moose Jaw.

It wasn't that Olafson hadn't tried other types of work. Before becoming a rancher, he was a railroader; before that he was a sailor and before that he herded sheep in his native Iceland. From a youthful age he was obliged to work and work hard. He was eight years old when his father died and as the oldest of five children, Olaf had to become the principal bread-winner for the family. It was then that he became a herder of sheep there in Iceland. But, like sheep-herding elsewhere, the job had its unsatisfactory features and when he was 14 years old, the boy quit the sheep and went to sea, first as a cook on a fishing boat and then as a real sailor.

Immigrant from Iceland

A large group of Icelandic people made Manitoba history by migrating and settling around Gimli, north of Winnipeg, in 1876. Olaf Olafson was among those who were impressed by the reports about opportunity and in 1887, he made his decision to go to Canada and arrived penniless at Brandon. There was some farm work available but nobody seemed anxious to hire a sailor, especially one who couldn't speak much of the local language. At last Robert Hall, who farmed west of Brandon, gave the young fellow a job at five dollars a month. Perhaps that was all he was worth at that time because he was a complete stranger to Canadian farming methods. When he indicated to Robert Hall that he knew how to milk, he was telling the truth because he had milked sheep in Iceland; but

milking cows in Manitoba presented new difficulties and problems arose.

But the Olaf Olafson western stockmen grew to know so well had a strong sense of purpose, even in those early years. According to the late John Hume of Souris, Robert Hall's hired man was sleeping in the upper part of a bunk-house which housed the poultry flock on its lower floor. Two roosters in the flock insisted upon crowing in boastful terms at very early morning hours and Olafson's sleeping hours, brief enough at best, were shortened seriously. After some days Mrs. Hall noticed that her roosters had disappeared. Evidently they met their death by drowning in the Assiniboine River which flowed past the Hall buildings. How the double tragedy occurred was never very clear but at least the hired man was able to sleep until the accepted rising hour.

Frustrated Hold-up Men

Many of the Icelandic people in Manitoba expected Olaf Olafson to join them at Gimli but he didn't. In



Olaf Olafson, Old Wives, Sask.

1892 he was at Moose Jaw and there he accepted work with the C.P.R. He became a brakeman and then a conductor and where Olafson was working there was always action. He wasn't very big but any lack of size was more than made good in courage and fortunately there is some record of his railroading experiences. One of his adventures was revealed by the discovery of an item in the Moose Jaw Times of May 17, 1895: "Desperados dare not molest Canadian trainmen; whenever they have tried it, they have been forced to retire with defeat marked plainly on their carcasses. Such an attempt was made just a few days ago on a C.P.R. train between here and Swift Current. Little Ollie Olafson of Conductor Barton's crew, tackled the gang on the blind end of the baggage van, just as the robbers were in the act of pulling the cord to stop the train and perchance rob and kill the passengers. Ollie warned them to desist; they showed fight; he pluckily faced them with a pistol in one hand and determination in his eye; his valiant front cowed the gang and they turned tail, sprang into space and have not been heard of since. The fireman, hearing the rum-pus, crawled over the tender and found Ollie exultant but withal a little faint."

That's the news report from a paper dated May 17, 1895, but the same "Pistol Packing" Olafson had his heart set on other things. As a member of the first Moose Jaw Turf Club, he would ride west from the town and gaze across the grassy plains and

hills that seemed to be calling him. About this time his mother and sister came out to join him and in 1898, he bought 25 cows at Balgonie and drove them to the grassland he was ready to call his own. He bought a Short-horn bull but before the next breeding season, that animal was lost in a fire and the young rancher had to replace him. He replaced him with a Hereford. Pretty soon Olafson quit railroading to devote his full time to cattle but the path to success was not smooth. The year 1906-07 tried to ruin him. It was the year of the bad winter when cattle numbers on the range were cut to less than half and to add to his stack of trouble, he lost another hundred cattle when they walked out on a nearby lake and went through the ice.

Prominent in Public Affairs

But Olafson was getting ahead just the same and before long he had 700 cattle. And now, stockmen in the South-West were beginning to look to this forceful little rancher for leadership. He believed in organization and was ready to work for it. Today, Olaf Olafson and Jack Byers of Calgary are the only living charter members of the Saskatchewan Stock Growers' Association which was formed in 1913. It was Olafson who circularized all the people who had grazing leases and called the first meeting at Moose Jaw. Next year, he became the Saskatchewan Stock Growers' president and proved that he could be meek or militant as occasion demanded. Both Provincial and Federal Governments soon knew there was a Saskatchewan Stock Growers' Association and that its president was a determined fellow.

His next major enthusiasm was the Southern Saskatchewan Co-Operative Stock Yards, constructed after an Act of the Legislature in February, 1919, to become the first public stock yards in the province. As in the case of the Stock Growers' Association and the Saskatchewan Feeder Show, Olafson's leadership was valuable and given generously. He talked about co-operative marketing of livestock, about a system of grading meat animals, about better breeding methods and about conservation of land, especially his beloved grassland. Only those who made the error of speaking in opposition to his views knew how stubborn he could be but it became known that "Ole is usually right". The Stock Growers' and the Saskatchewan Live Stock Board did not neglect to honor Olaf Olafson who earned such a good claim to the title of "Mr. Rancher," in his Province of Saskatchewan. Today, the pioneer lives in Moose Jaw and this year the cattle from Old Wives were shown under the name of Mr. Olafson's son, Slater Olafson.

Olaf Olafson believes that the profession of cattle raising is still one of the noblest of callings, important because it is essential to the proper nutrition of the human race, dignified by its suitability for people who love freedom and independence. When I sat beside him at a banquet table a little more than a year ago, I felt the urge to put one question to the 87-year-old "Dean of Saskatchewan Ranchers"; "if you were 20 years of age again, as you were when you came to Western Canada nearly 70 years ago," I asked, "and you knew what you know now, what would you do?"

It was a question he seemed to welcome and the answer was about as I expected: "I'd head right to the South-west and start looking for good grass with lots of water and when I'd found what I wanted, I'd figure out how to get some cattle without stealing them. And then when I was set up to sell good beef, I'd figure I had about the best job in the world."

Saskatchewan Pool Operations

THE Saskatchewan Wheat Pool had a net operating surplus of \$3,315,550 for the year ending July 31, 1955. This was gained through the operations of Pool elevators, the Pool flour mill, vegetable oil plant and livestock handlings.

Pool elevators handled 132,939,000 bushels of grain or 46 per cent of the total provincial deliveries. The previous year's handlings were 150,000,000 bushels or 44 per cent of total deliveries.

The livestock division marketed 42 per cent of Saskatchewan marketings, being 388,653 head with a value of \$28,185,795.53. The Pool flour mill produced 99,700 barrels of flour.

Cost Of Operating a Farm

A STUDY of cash farm income and operating expenses of sixteen Illustration Station Farms in Manitoba was conducted in 1954. It was found that the percentage of the operating expenses to the total farm income varied widely.

In south-western Manitoba, the average operating expenses of eight farms was 36.9 per cent of the cash farm income. Figures for the north-western section of the province, including the Swan River Valley, where four farms were studied, reveal that an average of 51.4 per cent of the cash farm income was spent on operating expenses. Two farms in the Red River valley area show that an average of 48.9 per cent of the cash income was spent on operations. On two station farms in the inter-lake area the average was 44.9 per cent of the cash farm income.

An analysis of figures for the sixteen Illustration Station Farms in the Province show that 42.9 per cent of total cash farm income was spent on operating expenses in 1954.

U. F. A. Co-op Does Well

THE United Farmers of Alberta Cooperative Ltd. is an outstanding and progressive farmers' organization. George E. Church is the president and W. J. Hoppins is general manager. The membership includes 25,000 farmers.

At the annual meeting held recently in Calgary the association reported net earnings for the past business year at \$277,109.00 on total sales of \$6½ millions. The previous year's earnings were \$228,558.00. The association is expanding its operations through additional plant in order to increase its effectiveness as a bargaining agent for the farmer people. The year's earnings will be distributed in the form of dividends on preferred shares and patronage dividends.

Gasoline and fuel oil sales in the 155 distributing plants reached 24,212,570 gallons and lubricating oils 209,732 gallons.

In view of congested grain marketing conditions the directors' report recommended that the federal government develop a plan whereby farmers would be bonused for taking acreage out of wheat and planting same to soil building crops. Another proposal was to establish a Canadian food bank through the government taking 200,000,000 bus. of wheat, paying for same, and holding it as a reserve, out of commercial channels.

A drunk was walking along the curb with one foot on the sidewalk and one in the gutter. A cop followed him for two blocks and then said, "Come along, buddy, you're drunk and I'll take you home."

"Thank heaven," said the besotted one. "I thought I was a cripple."

Mr. and Mrs. Farmer You Can Put This Beautiful Kitchen from—**LIFE** Into YOUR Alberta Farm Home TODAY



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- DAWN YELLOW!
- MERIDIAN BLUE!
- STAR WHITE!



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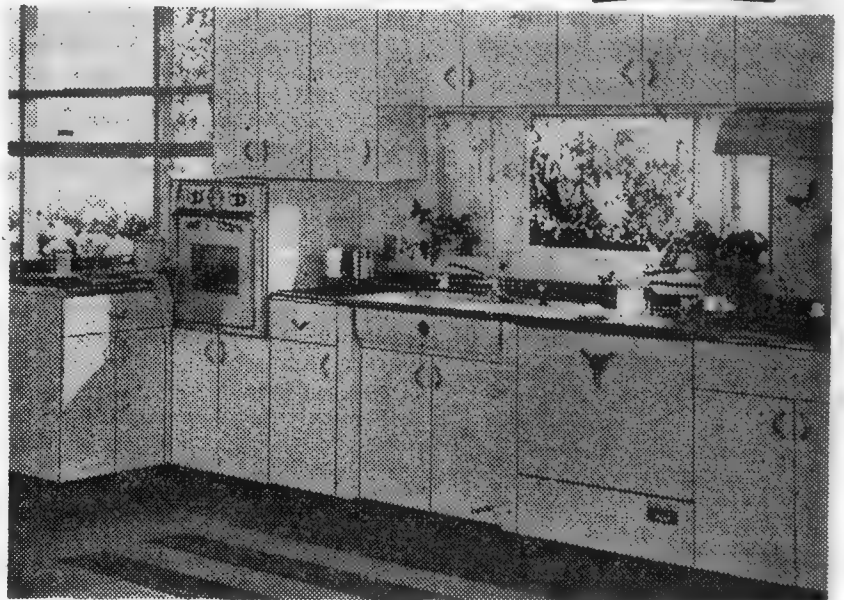
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No longer need you envy smart city home-makers and their Ultra-Modern Kitchens. You can have one yourself. Beautiful, colorful and with all the step-saving, time-saving, work-saving conveniences of any city home. It could be yours in a matter of hours, not just to dream about, but to work in, to live in, to enjoy — NOW. You can install it yourself — any handy man can, easily and quickly.

Get Both These FREE Planning Helps NOW!

"Do-It-Yourself" Floor Plan Guide Chart.

Just outline on this Guide Chart the size of your present kitchen. Indicate the doors, windows, etc. It's easy — full details on how to use the chart are printed on it, also a sample drawing. When you return the chart to us, our Kitchen Planning Department really goes to work for you. It suggests the best units for the space available, shows how to install them and how they fit together to give you the ultra-convenience of a modern city kitchen right on your farm. In addition, there is a local Youngstown Dealer in your district who will give you any further information or guidance necessary. He is a "near-at-home" solution to any problem.

Youngstown "Full-Line" Folder in Colors

Opens up 26" x 18". Has 71 different illustrations, many in colors. Shows 7 of the many different, dramatic dream kitchens, in "go-together" colors, that can be designed with Youngstown units of Lifetime Steel. Shows the 12 basic Youngstown Base Cabinets, the 12 basic Youngstown Wall Cabinets, also 24 different Youngstown Cabinet Sinks, Youngstown Electric Sink, Work-level and under-counter dish-washer. Also Youngstown special units. All or any of which you can have in your Youngstown kitchen, that make Youngstown kitchens the Dream Kitchens of Tomorrow. That any handy man can install in his own farm home in less than a day.



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THE Jubilee Party of the two Prairie Provinces who grew up is nearly over. The candles are flickering low and dying out on the giant Birthday Cakes as every little town and village, along with the busy cities settle down once more to the routine of every day life. And like all parties there is a reluctance to admit that it is finally ended. Slowly and a little sadly the relics which haven't found a resting place in the various

THE JUBILEE PARTY IS OVER

By BERYL RASMUSSEN

museums, are being put back in the attics. The old clothes, the old dishes and the old pictures which shared a brief glory in the limelight of the gala occasion are being relegated once more to their proper place — in the past. For we of the younger generation are so busy groping for our future, that we find little time to hold onto the past.

The Jubilee Year of Alberta and Saskatchewan will long be remembered in a tangible way as presses in the provinces busily printed Jubilee Books of the past. Busy women's groups made up cook books, and poems and hymns were written to commemorate the year. Many folks who never before displayed literary talents were moved by the spirit of celebrations all around them to write experiences they had known at the turn of the century. Perhaps the best read chapter in the whole Bible this year has been Leviticus 25, in which an ordinance given to Moses reminded us to hallow and keep the Jubilee Year.

As in all birthday parties the most important part in preparation is the guest list, and so committees in every town and village spent hours looking up names and addresses of former residents who had pioneered and who now lived in other parts. Invitations were sent out for certain days, and though Sept. 1st was the official day, some of the celebrations started as early as last May. And the visitors came! They came from across the seas from England and Scotland, from the East and from the West and from the South they made their way. From the tropical blue skies of Florida, and the white sands of California the visitors came. They left for a little time the homes they had adopted for the prairie homes they had left. They forgot the heartaches and trials which had made them get up and leave and remembered only was the joy of seeing an old familiar face, the warm handclasp of an old friend, the nostalgic reminiscences of old times and now in the twilight of their years life was good.

Dreams of the Past

There was a feeling of finality in their visit, for though young in heart, for most of them with the span of time life's book was coming to an end. They were once more visiting the land where they had spent their youth when life was young and strong and full of dreams, but now somehow it didn't matter too much how many dreams had been shattered for there was still the richness that was reality. And they had learned that without dreams, we get nowhere

but that with only dreams no goal is ever reached. Those who came back had through the years held something good to remember.

I stood on the shores of a beautiful lake in Montana and talked to a man who had lived in Northern Saskatchewan fifty years ago. His memories were only of the privations and hardships in a land where young men grew old and sickness wiped out whole families.

But he listened with interest as I told him that where he had homesteaded the 12th Provincial Fruit show was being held this year, where many of the fruits just as fine as grew in his luscious orchard behind us would be displayed. He had forgotten that fifty years in a young country brings great changes. He firmly believed that so great were the privations in the "frozen north" that he would never have reached his four score years had he stayed there, but I told him of Tisdale's Jubilee Queen who was a mere 90 years old, and of the retired Mountie who lived in his old home town until he was 86 and then retired to the Coast where he soon died, away from the rugged climate he was used to. While the children picked their first cherries from a cherry tree, a little confused by having a choice of five varieties, we talked of the two prairie provinces, and when we departed he was already planning a little trip after the fruit season, just to see the changes first hand. The news had spread and wherever we journeyed through the United States there was someone who said, "I hear there's a birthday party up in your country this year."

Seeing the Old Homestead

The visitors who came back did more than reminisce with their old friends, there wasn't one of them who had ever farmed who didn't make a pilgrimage out to their old homestead and stand and meditate at the change in modern farming. The roots of the soil grow deep, and they remembered the first acre cleared and the exultant feeling when the first golden grain poured from the spout of the first threshing machine. They heard of the bumper crops expected this year in the two provinces and thought of all the sights they had seen and all the places they had been that there had never been anything more beautiful than the gold of the wheat ripening under a prairie sky. They saw among the wheat field high derricks pointing to the sky which signified the black gold gushing from the brown earth and they felt the warm gold of human hearts and life had

never been better. If there were parts of the country with their gloomy side as they saw the havoc wrought by the elements with hail, drouth, floods and such like and they heard of the destruction caused by a minute insect called an aphid, they were but reminded that farming and life itself is a gamble, and its only those who can face up to such things who make farmers.

The Ancient Steamers

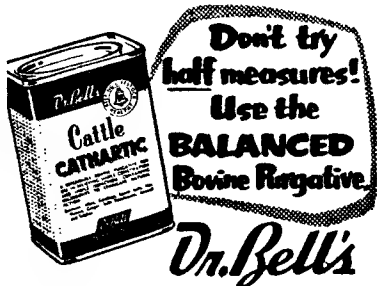
They gathered in little groups around the old time machinery which had been dressed up for the occasion. In many districts old steamers were put in order, and in High River, Alta. the old timers were taken for a ride around Memorial Park on hayracks tied behind one of these proud old "ladies of the plains." With the blast of her whistle the years fell away from the faces of the old timers, as it ran as smoothly as half a century ago, and many a young child watched with delight as grandma and grandpa shared in the limelight of the day. If there was a dry cleaning bill tomorrow after the long dusty ride, no one minded for grandma was reminiscing on how many men she had cooked for, when one of these outfits came for their harvest work, and grandpa was thinking about how young and strong he had been, as he had fed the sheaves into the hungry inwards of this powerful old machine.

The visitors took time off to drive around looking for the little red school houses which are fast becoming extinct across the prairies, and they toured through the sleek, modern new schools which sprawl across the prairies like giant building blocks. They rode on black-topped four-lane highways where prairie roads had been carved. And in every little cemetery one might see an old timer this summer standing in reverence and remembrance over the last resting place of one who had gone on long ago. Some of them, whose roots were not too deep somewhere else, made arrangements for their return when their life's span was over so that they might have their final resting place under a prairie sky.

Year to be Remembered

Like all birthday parties the gifts were a major part of the celebration and so across the country plaques and memorials were unveiled by prominent pioneers in commemoration of the year. Saskatchewan who had long been called the Cinderella province entered into the spirit of celebrations before her sister province, and early in May her beautiful Natural History Museum was opened in Regina by the Governor General of Canada. She followed up with her University Hospital in Saskatoon which stands as a tribute to the pioneer educators who showed foresight in allotting ample space on the University grounds many years ago, for all the buildings which might become in later years part of the campus. Alberta was busy with her snap election, and it looked for awhile as if this was to be our only jubilee expenditure. With the election safely over, the government hurriedly made preparations for lost time, and to provide for cultural and social growth in the province, they gave to Calgary and Edmonton each a \$3,000,000 Golden Jubilee Auditorium, which is expected to be finished next year. Scrolls were given to their senior citizens, and across the western province birthday candles twinkled as every little community did something to celebrate.

And so the "year to be remembered" will not soon be forgot. The people whom we honored perhaps will not all be spared too long after this
(Continued on page 15)



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Everybody's talking about the
NEW '56 DODGE



Dodge Mayfair Four-Door Sedan

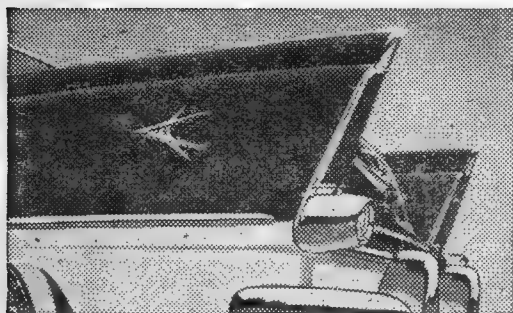
It's the one car that brings glamour and go to the low-priced field!

Small wonder that this flashing beauty has caught so many eyes. Just look at those long, low, racy lines. The Flight-Sweep '56 Dodge fairly coaxes you on to new adventure on the Canadian road. And under the hood, there's new V-8 or 6 power

that gives real authority to the Forward Look. Yes... here's new, higher horsepower and torque that handles hills like straightaways.

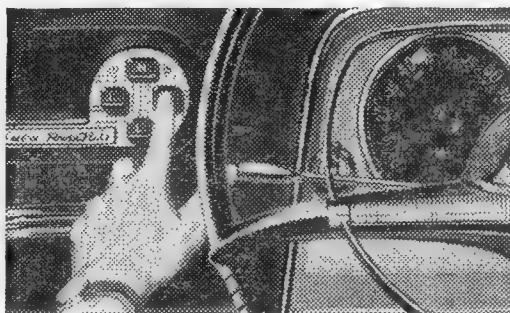
But see for yourself. Test-drive the beautiful '56 Dodge today. It's a wonderful experience!

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Glamorous new styling!

Most exciting new fashion on the road is the rakish new Flight-Sweep styling of Dodge rear quarter panels. Fenders sweep backward and skyward... then slant down in a daring reverse angle at the tall taillights.



New TOUCH and GO driving!

Just press a button... step on the gas... and go. No need for any shift lever with PowerFlite drive. Truly automatic push-button PowerFlite transmission is available in all Dodge models at extra cost.*



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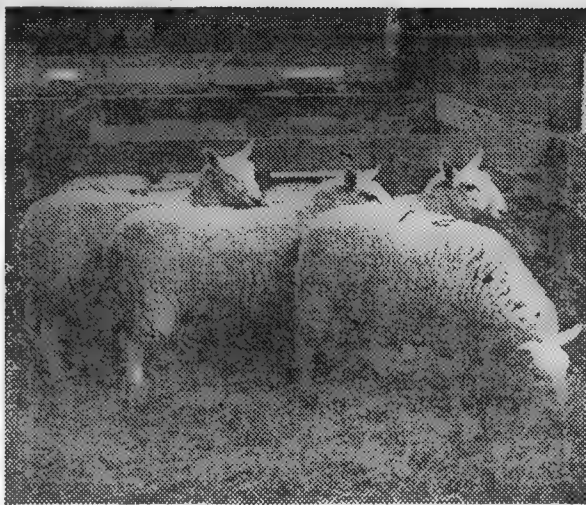
Dodge is the longest and roomiest car in the low-priced field. Big in power, too! New, more powerful V-8 available in all series... improved Six, too, with high torque for snappier getaway, easier hill climbing.

*Standard equipment on Dodge Custom Royal

See the glamour and go of the new Dodge with the Forward Look ➤ now at your Dodge-DeSoto dealer's



C. H. Borwick, of Drumheller, with grand champion Suffolk ram.



Pen of North Country Cheviot ewes including champion and reserve. C. D. McDougall, Champion, Alberta, owner.



Doug. Piggot, Parsons, B.C., with champion Suffolk ewe, sold to Dalbo Realities, Kevissville, Alta.

Autumn Sheep and Swine Sales

EDMONTON'S Fall Show and Sale, long, one of the largest swine events in Canada, regained its predominant position this year, from a set-back a year ago when northern Alberta crops were light and feed was short. The Edmonton Exhibition Fall Show saw a heavy entry of swine, followed by a successful sale. With close to 600 hogs entered, auctioneer Don Ball had a long job to sell 363 animals, at prices above those of a year ago. For the record there were 141 Yorkshire boars sold, at an average of \$81.50 compared to 109 a year ago at \$80.48. 185 Yorkshire sows brought \$73.21, against 135 last year at \$64.98. In Tamworths 20 boars averaged \$93.75 against 16 at \$72.96 in 1954, and 17 Tamworth sows drew \$66.32, compared with 8 a year ago at \$61.25.

This accomplishment of selling more swine and at higher prices indicates the important position of the Edmonton Fall Sale, for a week earlier, while Calgary's fall sale proved highly satisfactory, the swine average price had dropped to \$73.22 from \$99.34 the previous year, with 208 animals sold against 163 in 1954.

In the Tamworths at Edmonton, Frank Kisk of Ranfurly had the champion boar, and it sold at the top price of \$145.00 to Florian Beaudin of St. Paul. Guy Withers of Lavoy sold his champion Tamworth sow at \$100.00 to Sid W. Sheppard of Edmonton. K. W. Hougham of Frenchman's Butte, Sask., had the Yorkshire champion boar, and it sold at \$245.00 also to S. W. Sheppard. Peter Wyllie of Leduc sold the reserve champion boar at \$125.00 to F. Adey of Dawson Creek.

Two youthful exhibitors, G. O. & L. A. Johnson of Wetaskiwin not only had the grand and reserve champion Yorkshire sow, but also the winning pen of four to capture the Dean Sinclair Memorial Trophy. The champion sow sold at \$135.00 to S. W. Sheppard, and the reserve at \$110.00 to the same buyer. In the commercial swine sale, L. & W. Chappell of Vegreville had the champion carcass, which sold to Burns at \$35.00 live.

At the Calgary show, hogs took a back seat to the sheep, but Calgary, too, had an all-time record entry and sold 89 boars for an average of \$85.06 and 119 sows at an average of \$65.21. Prices in 1954 had been \$111.03 for 90 boars and \$84.93 on 73 sows.

Calgary's Yorkshire champion boar came from Knute Berg of Camrose, and sold at \$300.00 to A. H. Toft of Wayne. The reserve champion boar from P. J. Rock & Son, Drumheller, sold at \$210.00 to R. E. Cable, Hussar. Calgary top price boar was from A.

H. Toft and sold to N. S. Nelson, Standard, at \$420.00. In the Yorkshire sows, P. J. Rock's champion sold to Dalbo Realities' Arrowhead Ranch, Kevissville, at \$160.00. "H. J. Scholefield of Crossfield sold the reserve champion at \$100.00 to V. Wellman of Majorville.

Two new exhibitors won the championship ribbons for Tamworths. Felix Strauss of Stavely had the winning boar which sold at \$105.00 to the Alberta Department of Agriculture. Williams Brothers of Parkland, with a Greenway-Kinney cross had the champion sow which sold at \$95.00 to James Strauss of Champion. W. Innes of Ogden had the swine carcass champion, which sold at \$50.00 to Canada Safeway Ltd.

The Calgary Fall Sale has long been Canada's premier sheep event, and the supremacy remains unchallenged. In all 276 sheep of all breeds sold at an average of \$61.60, a trifle above last year's figure of \$60.19 for 255 animals. Ewes were in brisk demand, with 118 selling at an average of \$55.80 against last year's 92 at \$51.61. 158 rams averaged \$65.91, slightly above last year's \$65.03, when 163 were sold.

C. H. Borwick of Drumheller had the Suffolk grand champion ram, and it topped the entire sheep sale going at \$410.00 to R. H. Burns of Big Timber, Montana. The same buyer took the reserve champion from Tom Hudson of Kathryn at \$125.00. Second high price Suffolk ram came from Doug Piggot of Parson, B.C., and sold at \$260.00 to Grenville & Trentham of Morrin. Piggot had the Suffolk champion ewe, which sold to Dalbo Realities' Arrowhead Ranch at \$240.00. Harold Trentham sold the reserve champion Suffolk ewe to Dr. B. W. Banks of Calgary at \$170.00. Pairs of ewes at good prices includes a sale at \$400.00 from Piggot to Dick Scholten, Medicine Hat; Trentham to Faxson Sheep Farm, Saratoga, Wyo., two at \$310.00, and Tom Hudson a pair at \$260.00 to D. C. Brown, P. Jameson, Missouri.

Championships of other breeds included Hampshire, ram and ewe, to the Duke of Windsor's EP Ranch, High River. Corriedale ram and ewe, John Wilson, Jr., Innisfail. Southdown ram, Tom Hudson; ewe, R. N. Ralph, Stavely. South County Cheviot, ram, R. N. Ralph; ewe, W. V. Knight, Carmangay. North Country Cheviot, ram, Mrs. F. E. M. Robinson, Pincher Creek; ewe, C. D. McDougall, champion. Price-wise, the demand was brisk for the Cheviot with three rams averaging \$115.00, and four ewes, all from McDougall, averaging \$90.00.

Largely due to the Okotoks-Millar-

ville Junior Sheep Club the Calgary entry of show lambs and carcasses was substantial. Shirley Hudson sold the champion market lamb at 40c, while Mrs. M. E. Morrison of Innisfail received 80c for the champion lamb carcass. At Edmonton only three packer buyers took all of the market lambs and hogs. In Calgary, there were scores of buyers, with the result prices were at a premium compared to yards and plants. Lamb carcasses sold generally around 65c to 70c, hogs around 40c, market lambs generally 20c and none below 17c.

Edmonton's sheep section brought out possibly the strongest Suffolk display ever seen in that area, with the University of Alberta winning champion ram, and A. Matejka & Sons, Ponoka, the champion ewe, and Cornish Trophy award for the best pen of three, any breed.

R. C. Golightly of Streamstown had the Hampshire champion ram; Wm. G. Lewis of Sanguo the Hampshire champion ewe. C. K. Armitstead of Onoway had the Cheviot champion ram; Wm. G. Lewis the ewe. Oxfords were also shown and sold at Edmonton, with the championships to George Reed of South Edmonton. Matejka's Suffolk ewe topped the Edmonton sale, at \$145.00 to Hillsar Farms of Edmonton, but prices generally were low for the quality of sheep sold.

The First Flax Crop In Western Canada

By JOHN J. LAIT

I NOTICED in a recent issue of the Farm and Ranch Review an article on the pioneer farmers who grew Alberta's first wheat. We do not hear much about the first flax grown in the west. Flax is now about the only grain (if you can call it a grain) that a farmer can sell for cash to anyone who will buy it.

The writer happens to be the first farmer to grow an acreage of flax in the west—that is for seed. In the year 1898 the editor of the Northwest Farmer, published in Winnipeg at that time, wrote an article on "Why Can't We Grow Flax in the West?" He offered to locate suitable seed and to give a prize to anyone who would grow a few acres.

I was then farming at Glenlea, 20 miles south of Winnipeg on the Red River. I became interested and called on the editor and made arrangements to plant five acres to flax, but first I said I would get what information I could from the Experimental Farms. I wrote to Dr. Saunders at Ottawa, Mr. McKay at Indian Head, and the Brandon Experimental Farm. The answers I received were identical.

"Too far north. If planted early enough in the spring to escape the fall frosts, it would be killed by spring frosts."

Being an Englishman and, as some people claim, a little bullheaded, I went ahead and planted five acres. When the flax came into bloom it was a wonderful sight and could be seen for miles. When it came to cut it our troubles began. I made the mistake of binding it and the flax would persist in getting down between the pan canvas and the bottom elevating canvas. I finally overcame this by tacking flour sacks over the pan canvas.

When we started to thresh it on a 48-inch cylinder machine, the whole separator backed up and all moving parts were clogged. We had to put boys in with sharp knives to cut the flax away. Jack Bon, the owner of the machine, used more swear words than any man I ever knew, and said he would never thresh flax again. However, we got it finished and I put the seed in a bin. When I went to sack it the flax had heated so badly it was the color of mahogany and would not run. But when I took it to the flax mill in Winnipeg they paid me top price for it and would hardly believe the flax was grown in Manitoba. At that time the mill was importing flax from the Dakotas and the east.

The Doukobors used to plant flax for the fibre, but never could ripen the seed. When I planted the five acres I never thought to live to see the day when such a large acreage should be under flax in the west. I am now in my 87th year and still going strong.

1955 CANADA YEAR BOOK

The new 1955 edition of the Canada Year Book, authorized for distribution by the Rt. Hon. C. D. Howe, Minister of Trade and Commerce, has now been released.

As a result of the departmental policy of setting a very nominal price designed to cover merely the cost of paper, press work and binding, the price for the cloth-bound edition remains at \$3.00 per copy, procurable from the Queen's Printer, Ottawa.

A limited number of paper-bound copies are available at \$1.50 to bona-fide teachers, university students and ministers of religion from the Dominion Statistician, Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Ottawa.

"Now, Doctor," said the worried wife, "I want you to tell me the worst."

"Very well," said the doctor, "your husband will be back to normal in a day or two."

Kootenay Lake Boys Have a Real Good Friend

By JENNY PRINGLE

"KOKANEE" MENU

Season, 1955

Hot Dogs Ham Sandwich
Apple Pie Donuts
Coca Cola Orange Lemonade
Compliments of
Nelson Marine Service

LADS from 9 years to 14 years who live in Nelson, B.C., and vicinity are lucky lads indeed, for they have a champion and companion who, for thirty years, has befriended these boys. His home lies across the blue, blue Kootenay Lake. Here for years he took from three to ten boys across in his row boat, later in his motor boat. At his home is miniature bowling and billiards, a screen on which is shown films from the National Film Council.

Dick Spurway has had a warm place in his heart for boys and knows how best to get along with them. He never scolds or demands, but he asks and expects obedience. One lad said: "You would hurt Dick's feelings if you weren't good." He had soup and sandwiches, cookies, candy or apples for his visitors. He taught them photography and hand coloring of pictures. Many boys carried this into adult life. For special occasions he took photos of some of the boys and colored them, then he gave them to the boys to present to their mothers. This year he has expanded his efforts and bought a patrol boat which he remodelled and painted. He takes from 8 to 12 boys on cruises, going 9 miles up the lake and back. Some days he makes three trips but often just one. In three weeks he made 40 trips and treated 223 boys. On board are cookies, candy and pop. Occasionally he orders a meal and sends the boys in to a lakeside store in the outboard motor to bring the meal. Mr. Spurway added a larger smoke stack to the boat and sometimes puts in a smoke bomb that gives the boat a "realistic" note. The boys love this and call the ship the "Queen Mary", although Kokanee is its real name.

At first he trained a group of boys to run the engines, clean up and steer the boat. Now on every trip he has two or more of these trained lads who take over. They all know safety rules and about the launching of the outboard motor.

So that a different lot of boys will get trips, he gives these trained lads tickets to issue to their friends and the parents sign these. This assures the parents' consent and prevents too many boys arriving at the dock for any trip. It also assures boys from different districts getting in on the fun.

This patrol boat was built in North Vancouver in 1928 and was used by both the forestry and police to patrol the many miles of Kootenay Lake. There is a whistle that can be heard for 3 miles and a searchlight and traffic lights for night use.

For 15 years Dick has also taken two or three of his boys along on his own annual holidays. He visits industrial plants and travels by car, plane and boats. Last year he took them to Kitimat, and this year they are going to see the St. Lawrence Seaway. Before he owned the patrol boat, Mr. Spurway used his days off

from the post office to take lads on district trips. Dick plays no favorites and none is expected. Each and everyone feels he is Dick's special friend, and the boys will do anything to please him. Parents are welcome, too, and many take advantage of Dick's hospitality. For Hallowe'en he always has a huge party at his home with fireworks and a bonfire on his beach. Parents, too, are lucky to have a man like Dick to help interest boys who otherwise might be restless or find time for mischief. He gives them something to do and to think about.

Flax Varieties

FLAX trials carried on at the Experimental Farm, Brandon, under conditions of medium early seeding show that late-maturing varieties tend to outyield the early maturing types. Over the four-year period, 1952-55, the average yields have been: Rocket, 22 bu.; Redwood, 22 bu.; Victory, 21 bu.; Raja, 21 bu.; Sheyenne, 19 bu.; and Marine, 17 bushels per acre. It is noteworthy that Raja, a newly developed early-maturing type compares favorably in yield with the late-maturing varieties Redwood, Rocket and Victory.

The late-maturing varieties, Rocket and Redwood, are now recommended for the southern areas of the Province. When sown early, they should substantially outyield early-maturing types such as Sheyenne, Marine and Raja. This margin of yield increase becomes progressively less as seeding is delayed. Early-maturing types are listed for northern zones or for southern areas if late seeding is practiced.

The ability of the variety Raja to yield on a par with Redwood and Rocket in the southern areas under medium early seeding conditions and to outyield them sown later in the season, places this variety in a favorable position. It could fill an intermediate position between early and late varieties.

Raja is a comparatively new variety and seed stocks will no doubt be in short supply. Farmers are, therefore, advised to make arrangements for securing seed at their earliest opportunity.

Jubilee Party Is Over

(Continued from page 12)

memorable birthday party. This winter those who paid us a visit will sit around their fires in the different lands they have chosen, and stories will be told to eager ears of those who were invited but couldn't go. Perhaps as in memories of fifty years ago, they will forget to tell all that could be told. They will remember the warmth of the welcome, and the great changes which have been wrought in progress, and remember that it was they who had a place in its beginning. We of the younger generations have been made to realize how much we owe our way of life today to those early pioneers.

Across the two prairie provinces the last Birthday candles flicker and burn low, and everyone agrees it was a wonderful party, as rich memories were made as we paused for a little while and forgot our uncertain future to honor our golden past.



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Whatever your holiday destination, you'll enjoy your trip more aboard a Canadian National train.

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The Super Continental and the Continental serve Canada between Montreal and Vancouver, with convenient connections to California and the Eastern United States.

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Agent to arrange your
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W55-295

CANADIAN NATIONAL



Make this an All Electric Christmas

The perfect answer to your Christmas gift problem lies in your choice of electrical gifts . . . for then you're sure to give pleasure, convenience and economy the year round !

Easy to shop for . . . sure to please . . . pleasure-giving electrical appliances are always ready to serve with low-cost electric power. ❁

A practical, lasting electrical gift is a daily reminder of the giver! Your dealer has just the right appliance to please any name on your Christmas list . . . see his big selection soon !



TODAY'S Electric SERVICE

costs less than ever before !

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This despite the fact that poles, wires, transformers and other items needed for *electric service* have risen in price.

Your electric utility is proud to have helped pioneer electric service to the farm. We are constantly developing our facilities to make your farming easier, more profitable through *electric service*.

Your Electric Utility

A Present from The Heart

By KERRY WOOD

"BUT what kind of present can I get her? The stores all have the same sort of things for sale, and prices are so high!"

Young and old alike make this complaint at Christmastime. Perhaps a few ladies still give some home-cooked goodies to friends and neighbors every 25th: jars of jelly and jam, fancy cookies and a wedge of cake, with a steamed pudding resplendent in the middle of the basket. A few fortunate hobbyists can make their own gifts out of wood or leather, shellcraft or other art medium. But most of us hurry from store to store to choose a tie for an uncle, a pair of socks for a brother, a fancy blouse for a daughter and toys for our little people. And more and more, we repeat that Christmas has become a commercialized shopping season and the old idea of giving from the heart has gone.

Well, sometimes giving from the heart can hurt, even when the gift involved doesn't cost a cent.

This story is a chapter from one of my books, fresh in my mind because I travelled clear across Canada to tell the reasons for writing that book to a group of librarians meeting in New York state. The book describes how an Alberta boy who wanted to be a writer had to scrounge his food from the wilds. He was only sixteen years old at the time, but he had a stubborn, Scottish streak in him and had made up his mind that he was going to be a writer. His family had moved away, leaving the boy installed in a tiny shack a mile from town—in theory, he was to stay there only two months until he finished his schooling and could then join his family in the far off city where they had moved. But in actual fact, the boy had already made up his mind that he wasn't going to that city. He wanted to write, and his people disapproved of that ambition. So he stayed there alone in a hilltop cabin, with ten dollars to keep him fed and pay his rent.

Ten dollars didn't last long, even though he lived frugally. Soon there was no money left, while the pantry shelves were completely bare of food. The lad was offered a job, to which kindness he replied that he already had a job: he was a writer! Yet his stories were not accepted by any editor, and an empty stomach can't be filled with nothing but hope.

Starvation Fare

However, the boy was resourceful. He caught many a pike and pickerel, goldeye and ling to provide him with tasty fish suppers and breakfasts and dinners. He discovered that the common plantain leaves were as good as garden green spinach; he ate dandelion greens as salad and made stew out of the flesh of woodchucks, porcupines, and squirrels. Saskatoons and raspberries gave him desserts, and scarlet partridge berries made him a mealy porridge such as Indians used to eat. When summer waned and first frosts came, the boy copied Indians in another way and dined on the inner white bark of the poplar tree. It was the starvation fare of oldtime Indians, and that boy was starving enough to relish such food.

While winter cut off his supply of berries and fish, mushrooms and wild greens, it did bring one compensation. He could set out traps and catch some fur-bearers to sell their skins and

earn a little cash. But—have you ever seen a weasel caught in the steel vise of a trap and held there while blood wells out of its broken-bone wounds? Have you ever seen a beaver hold hand-like paws above its head to ward off the blow of a killing club? The boy did not like inflicting such cruelties and stopped using those horrible instruments of torture called steel traps. Then an Indian showed him how to build deadfalls that kill instantly, and also taught him the trick of snaring.

Death Agonies of Animals

There was something about snaring that bothered the lad's conscience. Strangulation isn't a pleasant death, and for proof of its agonies he'd only to look at the grotesquely twisted bodies of rabbits, coyotes, and other creatures caught in the wires. He couldn't get over a certain squeamishness about snaring and one day he came to a set where a partridge was still struggling in one of the brass wires. The boy released that bird and watched it fly away in glorious freedom again. Then and there he made a pact: if any creature was still alive in one of his snares when he reached the set, he'd turn it loose as a sop to his squeamish conscience.

This promise had a grim aftermath on Christmas Day. For three days before the 25th the boy was confined to his shack while a cold blizzard raged over the land. His ragged clothing wasn't adequate to protect him outdoors during that windy, sub-zero storm, so he stayed in his shack and ate the boiled poplar bark that had become his staple fare. He craved meat, and when Christmas morning dawned bright and still the boy hurried out to visit his snares in hopes of finding something that would yield him a decent dinner.

But the blizzard had drifted snow over his snares. Set after set was covered and empty. Until, at last, he approached the final one: it had been placed under the shelter of a large spruce tree where snow could not cover it. As the boy drew near, a rabbit raced from a willow thicket and ran into that waiting noose. It was struggling frantically to get free when the youth reached the set.

A Christmas Gift

Well, he slackened the wire from its neck and held the warm-furred little creature between his cold hands. At first it was limp in his fingers, its heart drumming at a furious tempo while it gasped and choked for breath. Gradually it recovered, and finally the eyes opened to stare alertly up at the watching boy. He knew that it would live if he let it go, and he'd already made a solemn promise to release anything found alive in any of his snares. Why, then, did he not open his hands and free it?

It was Christmas morning. There was no food in his shack, except for a potful of poplar bark. He was thoroughly sick of that starvation food by this time, and Christmas is a special festive occasion in most homes. This rabbit would provide him with rich, red meat for a good Christmas dinner. But—What about his promise? The rabbit sensed that its life was in jeopardy, for suddenly it threw back its head and screamed. And as that pathetic appeal shrilled through the woodlands, the boy dismissed his murderous intentions and honored his promise and turned it

loose. It was a Christmas gift that cost him not a cent, yet it was given from the heart.

As you have probably guessed by now, I was that boy. And I can assure you that the gift of a rabbit's life was one of the dearest presents I ever gave at Christmas time.

GOOD XMAS PRESENT

The story, "A Present from the Heart," by Kerry Wood, which is being run in this issue is from a book, "Wild Winter," by Kerry Wood. It would make a good Christmas present and is published by Thomas Allen Ltd., 266 King St. West, Toronto, the price being \$2.50. I cheerfully mention this as Canadian authors have a rather tough time in disposing of their books.

Canada's Grain Production

THE estimate of 1955 grain production in Canada, released last month, placed wheat production for the entire Dominion at 494.1 million bushels, of which 472 million were produced in the Prairie Provinces.

Production of oats is given as 403.8 million (290 million in the Prairie Provinces); of barley, 251.8 million (244 million in the Prairie Provinces).

Production in the Prairie Provinces is given herewith:

	Acres.	acre.	Production
Wheat	20,812,000	22.7	472,000,000
Oats for grain	7,788,000	37.2	290,000,000
Barley	9,638,000	25.3	244,000,000
Rye	707,000	18.9	13,350,000
Flaxseed	1,959,000	10.8	21,200,000
MANITOBA			
Wheat	1,950,000	21.0	41,000,000
Oats for grain	1,485,000	33.7	50,000,000
Barley	2,090,000	19.1	40,000,000
Rye	83,000	20.5	1,700,000
Flaxseed	531,000	8.7	4,600,000
SASKATCHEWAN			
Wheat	13,148,000	22.7	298,000,000
Oats for grain	3,654,000	36.9	135,000,000
Barley	3,846,000	27.0	104,000,000
Rye	450,000	18.2	8,200,000
Flaxseed	1,180,000	11.5	13,600,000
ALBERTA			
Wheat	5,714,000	23.3	133,000,000
Oats for grain	2,649,000	39.6	105,000,000
Barley	3,702,000	27.0	100,000,000
Rye	174,000	19.8	3,450,000
Flaxseed	248,000	12.1	3,000,000

Earnings of Canadians

THE federal department of national revenue has issued a green book showing average incomes of Canadian taxpayers in the various groups for the year 1953. Some are as follows:

Doctors	\$11,258.00
Engineers and architects	10,289.00
Lawyers and notaries	9,995.00
Accountants	8,096.00
Dentists	7,485.00
Salesman	4,665.00
Entertainers	4,254.00
Fishermen	3,703.00
Farmers	3,869.00
Average of all taxpayers, 1953	3,383.00

The number of Canadians in the \$100,000 a year bracket was 250 in 1953 compared with 330 in 1952.

Those earning between \$50,000 and \$100,000 was 1,700; those between \$25,000 and \$50,000 was 7,310; those between \$10,000 and \$25,000 was 55,210; those between \$5,000 and \$10,000 was 292,140; those less than \$1,000 was 33,710. Over one third of the total earned less than \$3,000 a year.

Big Apple Crop

THE Canadian apple crop is estimated at 18,500,000 bushels this year, compared with 14,000,000 last year. An energetic sales campaign will be required to dispose of the surplus.

The United States imported Canadian apples to the value of \$1,627,012 in the first 8 months of this year, as against \$4,966,976 last year. The British imported apples from this country to the value of \$1,162,640. At present prospects for enlarged exports are not too bright. Germany may import apples from Canada as the apple crop in that country was poor this year.

Canadians should be encouraged to eat more apples and drink more apple juice.

FROM
**EATON'S
OF CANADA**

TO ALL OUR
Mail Order Friends-

A
**Joyous Christmas
AND A
Happy New Year**

WINTER WARMERS

The First Ukrainian

by Wm. Grasiuk

ON the farm of John Eleniak near Chipman, Alberta, lives a small, sparse white-haired man. He is Wasyl Eleniak, Canada's first Ukrainian, who despite his 97 years is still spry and active. He likes receiving visitors. He enjoys talking of his experiences, and they are very colorful and intriguing.

"I was born," said Mr. Eleniak, "in a mountain village of Nebilow in Austria. My parents were poverty-stricken peasants and I often knew what it was to be hungry. I grew, worked on the landlord's estate, reached manhood and married. I often wondered where the next crust of bread was to come from. A fellow-villager, and my closest friend, Ivan Pillipiw, went to Germany one year to work in the harvest fields. He learned there of a vast land, Canada, which was under-populated, with vast stretches of land, bush and meadows. And which would welcome with open arms the land-hungry central Europeans. Evening after evening Pillipiw and I talked of this exotic land. Finally we decided to take the plunge. I sold all I thought wise and realized a munificent sum of \$76. Pillipiw had \$240. A third villager decided to come along. He had \$45, and since this sum was deemed insufficient he was turned back, lending Pillipiw and me the forty-five dollars.

"We took the train to Germany, boarded the steamship Oregon and sailed. It cost me," said Mr. Eleniak, "sixty dollars for passage."

Government records show that on September 7, 1891, there were two immigrants, W. Illilik and I Pyliwsky, both 33 years of age and both from a Carpathian village of Nebilow, Austria-Hungary who came aboard the steamship Oregon. But let me go on with Mr. Eleniak's story. "It took us," he continued, "twenty-two days to cross the ocean. We disembarked in Montreal and stayed for a while in the 'Immigration Hall,' which despite its austerity was far superior to any previous accommodation we had known. We left Quebec for Alberta, but since the C.P.R. railway to Edmonton was not completed we returned east and got off in Manitoba. Luck was with us and we obtained employment in the harvest fields of the Mennonite farmers. The pay was \$1.25 a day and board.

"Next year Pillipiw returned to Austria to recruit settlers. I remained one more year in Canada, earned some money and went to Nebilow for my family.

"On my return to Canada my wife and I set to work. With axe and saw we shaped logs for the house. With sickles we cut the tall swamp grasses for the thatch for the roof. Wall were plastered with prepared clay. We had no stove, so we built an old country hearth which did a double service. It gave heat, and the top was used as a bed by the youngsters.

"With grub hoe we broke the land. But it was the Church that we missed most. I had to take my own son out of the province to get christened. Imagine our joy when the first Ukrainian Church in Canada was completed. It was at Penno, Alberta, in 1898."

Here Mr. Eleniak stopped. "Have you heard of the struggle that went for that church? I suppose not. Some of the pioneers joined the Russian Orthodox faith and wanted to take the church with them. We Catholics wanted it to remain Catholic. The matter landed in the courts, and it was not till 1907 that finally the Privy Council in London decided in favor of the Orthodox. My heart

breaks when I recall the animosities that the law suit engendered.

"What were some of my happiest moments? Well, let's see. In 1941 when the Ukrainians celebrated the 50th Anniversary of the Ukrainian immigration to Canada, I was an honored guest at many a gathering. I am very proud also of the fact that I was a guest of the Dominion government in Ottawa. It was then that they presented me with the Canadian Citizenship. I was also very pleased when in 1954 I was feted at Chipman, when a memorial was unveiled commemorating the first settlement here by the people of the Ukraine. This year my eyes were moistened with joyful tears when I received a scroll from the provincial government. These I think were my very happy moments.

"How do I spend my time? Years ago I used to read the 'Ukrainian News' but now my eyes are dim and the letters seem to have become rather grotesque and I don't seem to recognize them any more. I take my daily walk to the barns and the pens and the pastures, to look at the animals, but my greatest joy is my family, my grandchildren and great grandchildren and great, great grandchildren.

"What preparations are you making for your one-hundredth birthday anniversary?"

"Son — son," he said in a voice deep with emotion, and I could see tears in his eyes, "Will God in his graciousness let me see my one-hundredth birthday?"

Manitoba Pool Elevators Operations

A surplus of \$2,174,747 was realized by Manitoba Pool Elevators in its operations in grain handling, seed association and livestock department during the last business year.

The 264 Manitoba Pool country elevators handled 37,709,000 bushels of grain or about 50 per cent of the total marketed in the province. The country elevator capacity is 19,815,000 bushels and that of the five terminals operated at Port Arthur by the co-operative 15,725,000 bushels.

Manitoba Pool elevators has now \$4,062,166 in its general reserve account, and sufficient capital is now available to finance the investment in fixed assets.

YOU CAN STILL TAKE UP TO 20 HIGH SCHOOL CREDITS GRADES X, XI, XII WITH Final Examinations in June

Did sickness, harvesting, or anything else prevent you commencing high school last September? If so, the Mount Royal College Semester System of High School study may assist you to complete another grade by next June.

Start with the new Spring Semester that commences February 6th. You may take four major subjects up to 20 Credits and write final examinations in June. All high school subjects of each grade will be offered, and the complete work covered by the end of June.

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GRADE XI ENGLISH

Required by the Department of Education 178 hours; offered on the Mount Royal College program 252 hours.



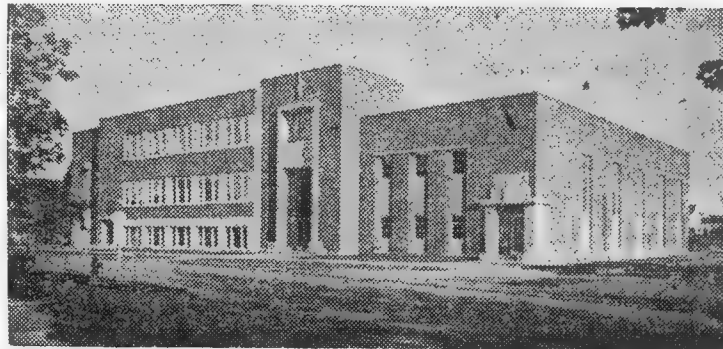
Dr. John H. Garden,
Principal

COMPLETE
ANOTHER
GRADE BY
JUNE

Mount Royal College

Spring Semester — Commencing Feb. 6th

ALL SUBJECTS GRADES X, XI, XII



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7th Avenue West, Calgary, Alberta.

Please send me, without obligation, a copy of your illustrated prospectus and details of the Semester System and how I can secure the necessary High School Credits.

NAME _____ Address _____

GRADE _____ CREDITS REQUIRED _____

Season's Greetings . . .

The delegates, directors and management of the Alberta Wheat Pool, extends to all sincerest wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Alberta Wheat Pool's Record of Progress

REVIEW OF OPERATIONS FOR THE YEAR ENDING JULY 31, 1955

ELEVATOR OPERATING RESULTS—

Gross Operating Earnings for Season 1954-55	\$ 2,820,634
Less: Depreciation on Buildings and Equipment	1,487,356
Surplus for the Year	\$ 1,333,278

ELEVATOR OPERATIONS—

Operated 523 country elevators and terminal elevator at Vancouver. Port Arthur terminal was operated under agreement with Manitoba Pool Elevators.

GRAIN HANDLINGS—

Handled 55,429,377 bushels of grain received from producers compared with 56,186,415 bushels the previous year. This represented approximately 35% of the total grain marketed in the Province of Alberta in 1954-55.

RESERVE PURCHASES—

Completed purchases in full from estates of deceased members, members who have ceased farming, and a rateable purchase of 5% of all remaining reserves. These purchases totalled \$704,344.

PATRONAGE DIVIDENDS—

Distributed \$2,216,348 in patronage dividends for the year 1953-54 involving a cash distribution of \$596,783 and reserve credits of \$1,619,565.

STORAGE FACILITIES—

Increased available storage space in country elevators and annexes by over two million bushels.

NEW MEMBERS—

During the year, 2,092 new members joined the Alberta Wheat Pool.

JUNIOR 4-H CLUBS—

Sponsored 67 Junior Wheat Clubs having a total membership of 1,245 and 70 Girls' Garden Clubs with a membership of 793. These are under the direction of the Alberta Department of Agriculture.

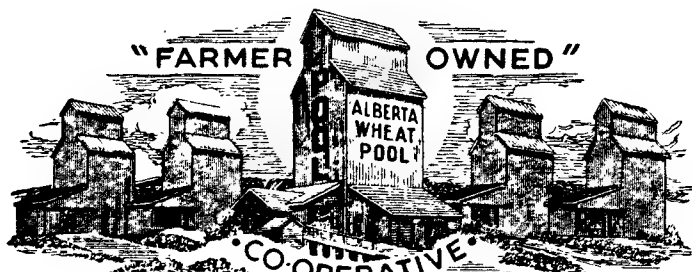
FINANCIAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS FROM EARNINGS, 1923 to 1955—

Cash Patronage Dividends	\$ 6,852,946
Reserve Purchases	9,816,651
1929 Overpayment Paid in Full	5,649,000
Interest on 1929 Overpayment	3,332,924
Income Taxes Paid	1,736,279
Investment in Fixed Assets	\$19,007,427
Less: Reserves Originally Contributed by Members	8,467,830
	10,539,597
Acquired Working Capital	6,864,323

TOTAL ELEVATOR AND INTEREST EARNINGS \$44,791,720

PATRONAGE DIVIDENDS—

In addition to cash payments of \$6,852,946 member patrons have received up to and including 1953-54, \$11,162,010 in Reserve Credits, making a total distribution of \$18,014,956 as patronage dividends out of earnings.



"IT'S ALBERTA POOL ELEVATORS FOR ALBERTA FARMERS"

Alberta Wheat Pool Operations

THE Alberta Wheat Pool had a net operating surplus in the past business year of \$1,333,278.49 in the handling of 55,417,243 bushels of all grains. This information was given to the Pool delegates at the annual meeting in Calgary in the report presented by the board of directors. The earnings, before special capital cost allowances were deducted, were \$1,912,541.07, as compared with \$2,652,208.12 in the previous year.

The earnings of the 1953-54 crop year were distributed as follows:

Cash patronage dividends	\$ 596,783.24
Allocation of reserves to the credit of members	1,619,564.91
Income tax paid	99,364.52
Transferred to surplus account	132,393.80
	\$2,448,106.47

Purchase of reserves from estates of deceased members, from members no longer farming and on a rateable basis totalled \$704,344.31.

During the year 1954-55, 2,092 new members joined the Alberta Wheat Pool, but 585 names were removed by death and 1,224 members retired from farming and their membership was cancelled through the purchase of their reserves. As at July 31, 1955, the Pool membership was 48,813.

The board reported that not much progress had been made in the objective of obtaining for the grain producer the right to deliver their grain to the elevator of his choice. Lack of an united farm front was blamed for such a condition. However, the Wheat Board was instructed by the transport controller in the autumn of 1954 to allocate cars at each point in proportion to the Board orders approved for the point. This arrangement is an improvement over the method employed previously, but it still does not provide an answer to the problem of car allocation.

The directors commended the work of the Wheat Board over the past year as being creditable in the face of the most difficult marketing conditions. "In every wheat exporting country outside of Canada and Australia," the board's report states, "wheat farmers are receiving support prices and exports are being subsidized by government funds. With world wheat production proceeding at a record or near record level, it is a problem as to how long Canadian farmers can continue to bear the load alone."

The board joined with other farm organizations in approving a proposal urging the government to provide financial assistance to farmers who needed such. The board also approved the stand taken against Canada entering a price war with other nations. Without the protection of price supports, Canada would be a big loser in such an event. The opinion was expressed that a solution in the international wheat marketing problem can only be reached through international agreement and the hope was expressed that a new arrangement among world nations would be reached to go into effect when the present International Wheat Agreement expires next July 31.

Concern was expressed over the high cost of farm operation as contrasted with the deterioration in the position of the farmer. Farm costs seem to be going up and only this last fall the price of farm machinery and parts was increased by 7 per cent. Railway officials want the Crows' Nest Pass rates on export grain discontinued. Shipping interests want a monopoly on inland waterways when

the St. Lawrence Seaway is completed. The deterioration which has taken place in the agricultural economy and the factors which threaten its future welfare points to the necessity of strengthening the entire organized farm movement. As individuals farmers have little strength or influence but united they can form a mighty army with a chance of maintaining agriculture's proper position in the national economy.

In planning for a future elevator construction program, the directors pointed out, consideration will have to be given to the trend towards centralization of services in larger centres. Good roads will be built to such centres and there will be a tendency for grain deliveries to be made more and more to such points, with the gradual elimination of sidings.

Pool Manager's Report

A. T. Baker, general manager of the Alberta Wheat Pool, in his report to the annual convention of Pool delegates, stated that the net earnings of the co-operative for the business year ending July 31 last was \$1,337,278.00, after the deduction of normal and special depreciation of \$1,487,356. Handlings of grain during the year by Pool elevators totalled 55,429,357 bus., or 35.94 per cent of all grain deliveries in Alberta. Last year the percentage of total deliveries handled by the Pool elevators was 32.18. The construction of additional storage added about 1 per cent to the handlings and a slightly more favorable distribution of cars, the balance.

Capital expenditures during the year in extending facilities and increasing the capacity of the Vancouver terminal, also reconstructing portions of the Port Arthur terminal, totalled \$4,488,642.

Working capital was \$6,864,323 compared with \$5,334,260 a year previous.

Mr. Baker said country elevator space at the end of the business year was increased by 1,771,900 bushels, making the total capacity of Pool country elevators 37,312,750 bus. In addition 738,000-bushel capacity of off-site space was rented.

In store in Alberta Pool country elevators on July 31, 1955, was 32,463,192 bus. of grain, compared with 31,571,899 bus. on the same date a year earlier. This shows the grain congestion prevailing.

The Vancouver terminal unloaded 24,697,899 bus. of grain during the year, which was 8,000,000 bus. less than in the previous year.

The gross overage incurred in all grain handlings was 1-25th of 1 per cent.

In its presentation to the board of grain commissioners last summer the Alberta Pool did not ask for any increase in handling or storage charges. The rates are 4½c for wheat and barley and 3½c for oats. The carrying charge is 1c for 35 days.

The total of Alberta Pool elevators rose to 525 with the opening of an 83,000-bushel house at Bassano. Previously elevators of similar capacity were opened at Fairview, Falher and Orion. At each locality where a new Pool house was built, the opening ceremonies attract large gatherings of farm people, a prominent local man cuts the ribbon across the driveway and a veteran Pool member, along with a recently admitted young man, deliver the first loads of grain.

What Will The New Wheat Policy Be ?

By ARTHUR HILLSON,
Elnora, Alberta

WHY consider a new wheat policy? Heavy surpluses of wheat through years of increased production, by favorable growth conditions, high subsidies for home grown wheat in Europe, the withdrawal from stock piles of wheat for consumption, the shortage of dollars, the desire of importers to purchase at a lower price, the lower purchasing power of devalued currencies and less import demand are the reasons for a new wheat policy.

True, it needs a definite solution, but it must not be by reduced production while peoples die of malnutrition.

Only 26% of the world's wheat trade was sold within the I.W.A. in 1953-4. Roughly 251 million bushels of wheat including flour was sold last year by Canada, and 992 million bushels of wheat face Canada today.

Export prices for wheat are falling rapidly, even the price of wheat outside the I.W.A. has fallen 37c per bushel below the maximum price of the I.W.A., far below the guaranteed prices of wheat paid to farmers for home consumption in Europe.

If the price of Canadian wheat continues to fall, the payment of subsidies in Europe will threaten the maintenance of such subsidies and endanger the stability of their economies. U.K. now pays £106 million annually on subsidies. Mr. Butler, the U.K. chancellor of Exchequer mentioned this recently. World governments are watching the price of wheat, it must not fall too low, nor range too high.

Every western farmer should be thankful that the huge surpluses of wheat have been kept off the world market by their strong organizations, preventing total collapse of world wheat prices.

The greatest stabilizing influence for *International Trade* has been, the maintenance of prices on a level with the I.W.A.

The struggle to maintain this procedure is evident to all, the price of wheat under the I.W.A. is gradually falling, but the total collapse of world prices is being firmly held back.

The great need today is the continuance of the I.W.A., the extension of commodity agreements between nations and international action to solve economic problems, to ensure a measure of price stability, of balance of trade, and of the purchasing power of currencies in 48 countries, members of the I.W.A. recognizing these facts, recently representatives of these countries sat in the International Wheat Council in London to consider the renewal of the I.W.A., the inclusion of the U.K., the extension of the I.W.A. to all countries outside the agreement, requesting Soviet Russia, her so-called satellite countries and certain Latin American countries to attend meetings of the I.W. Council.

The U.K. has agreed to attend meetings of the Council. The National Farmers of England, representatives of the Canadian Wheat Board and the International Wheat Council are optimistic as to the future entry of the U.K. in the I.W.A. and so am I. The new wheat policy must be such as will work for the extension of commodity agreements, sale of wheat arranged if necessary on a long term repayment by impoverished and undeveloped countries, accept-

ing their currencies, goods or raw materials.

Certain clauses of the Bretton Woods agreement as to dollar repayment must be annulled, and importing countries must be enabled to secure a reasonable balance of trade with Canada.

It is high time the voice of the F.A.O. was heard and action taken by the Canadian government.

The present unsatisfactory trade position of Canada, her dependence upon foreign investments to maintain the strength of her currency, her failure to trade on an equitable basis with countries who purchase from her, cries aloud for amendment in the new wheat policy of Canada.

In the domestic field, the new wheat policy must allow for the outright purchase, storage and sale of wheat from the producer, *not loans*, for the farmer is already overburdened with debt.

To stabilize the price of farm commodities, to maintain the income of the farmer has become a national responsibility, this is recognized by the majority of nations; it must be recognized by Canada.

The feeding of the people, or, of peoples internationally (as a political expedient) is a national responsibility, its cost must be met by the Exchequer, *not by the farmer alone*.

Shorthorn Sale

SHORTHORN enthusiasm reached its highest pitch in years when 1,200 people from 15 states, 8 Provinces, and Australia gathered at Louada Farms, Peterboro, Ontario last month to appraise the Shorthorns offered by Louis Cadesky.

The \$92,775.00 paid for 41 lots made history for the breed. The enviable record made in 1954 by the Louada herd sire, Calrossie Armada, had stirred the interest of cattlemen all over the American continent, and the presence of representatives from almost every notable herd on both sides of the border was a tribute to Mr. Cadesky, Wilbur Donaldson, the Manager, and Calrossie Armada, the illustrious herd sire.

Thirteen bulls averaged \$3,612.00; twelve sons of Calrossie Armada averaged \$3,833.00. Top price of \$8,000.00 was paid by Hi-Ho Farms, Phoenix, Maryland for Louada Gambler. N. D. Latimer & Sons, Bowden, Alta., paid \$7,200.00 for Louada Galahad which was only 10 months old. Another well known breeder, A. R. Cross of Midnapore, Alta., gave \$7,000.00 for Louada Fortress and True Buckmaster, Portland, Indiana, gave \$5,000.00 for Louada Commander.

Females were also in strong demand as indicated by their average of \$1,637.00. W. H. Merry, Milton, Ontario, paid top price when he gave \$3,400.00 for Rothes Caroline.

A comparatively new breeder, L. J. Litchy, Ottawa, Ontario, paid \$3,000.00 for Louada Broadhooks Betty. John Alexander & Sons, Aurora, Illinois, paid \$2,700.00 for Louada Princess Royal 4th.

Gibbonsdale Pauline 2nd brought \$2,550.00 from the bid of Carl Stander, Mansfield, Ohio, and Archwood Farms, The Plains, Virginia, gave \$2,500.00 for Louada Princess Royal 5th.

Fourteen daughters of Calrossie Armada averaged \$1,715.00.

The cattle were distributed into 3 Provinces and 8 states.

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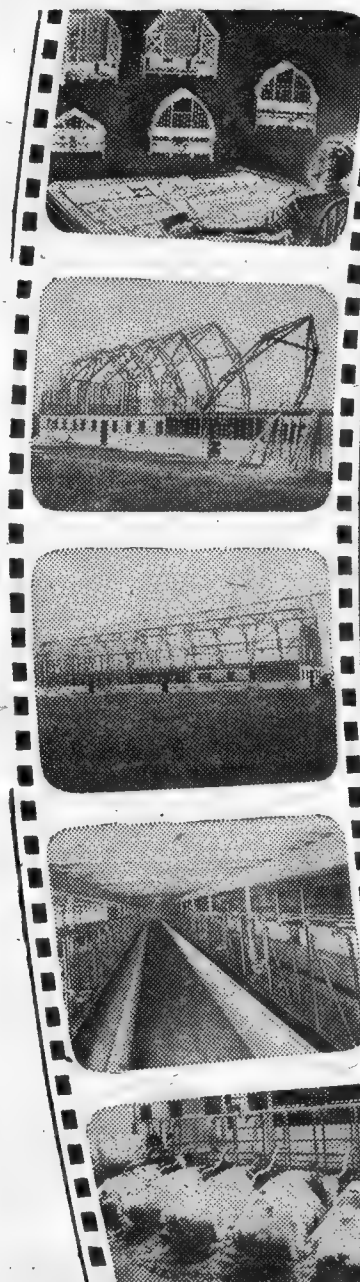
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Last summer I was at my uncle's farm. When the cows came home, four pigs ran to meet them. The cow stopped and all four began to suck, one on each tit.

I am 6 years old.
Florence Peterson.
Iron River, Alta.

My Bantam hen hatched 6 little chicks late in the summer. They didn't do so well and kept dying until only one was left. So one day I saw a rooster pick him up and run with him. I ran and caught the little chick and brought him in the house and put him in a bird cage. He was very scared for a day or two. One day I took him in my hand. Then he became quite a pet. After that when I went close to the cage he would run around and try to get out. He would wait for me to come home from school. When I took him out he would run on my hand. We had him for about two weeks then he died.

Dale Trenerry.
(Age 10)
R.R. 3, Provost, Alberta.

A few days ago my dad and brother Joe went out for a load of straw bales. On the way home they tipped over with dad underneath the bales. Just then the neighbor went by. As my brother stood there so innocent he told him to jump in the car and we'll run home and tell your dad. Brother said, "He knows all about it."

Jacob Hofer.
Cranford, Alta.

This spring I set 8 hens with 12 eggs under each. And I was counting on 96 little chickens. The first set good but the others kept getting off and breaking eggs. Then I only had 5 hatched out of the bunch. It sure is true, don't count your chickens before they are hatched.

Dennis Symington.
R.R.3, Provost, Alberta.

The coyotes had been taking chickens here for a long time and one morning Mother saw one coming through the pig-pen so she ran in to get Daddy to shoot it but when he got out it was nowhere in sight. The next morning he got up about four o'clock and waited until five when along came Mr. Coyote. It was too bad for him, 'cause Daddy shot him. When he came in the house Mother asked if he was sure it was dead.

He said, "You're darh right, I shot it twice."

About two hours later my sister and I went out to see. It was up on its front feet going around and around. When it saw us it pretended to be dead. We soon put it out of its misery.

James R. Bronson.
R.R.1, Markerville, Alberta.

Two little pigs that we bought in the spring seemed to be "just what the doctor ordered" for some fun. Being very wild, it took quite a while to get them unafraid of us, which my four sisters and I loved to do. First we trained them to ride using a hand-made bridle (with a bit) and lines. So, after we older ones had "saddled up", we placed our two youngest sisters on. What a jolly time we had!

Until they weighed too much, they were carried around. Just awhile ago, we, being in the barn, I suggested that we give the pigs some gum. We nearly burst ourselves laughing as they noisily went, "chomp, chomp!" This went on for about five minutes, until the sweetness was gone, whereupon Henry and Henrietta swallowed it!

Betty Northcott.
Rapid City, Man.

Recently I witnessed an entrancing performance by a large flock of crows. They ascended high into the air; came down slowly; turned all sorts of intricate somersaults, chased one another, flew in circles and performed other curious capers. It was a real "festival of crows".

Gordon Purdy.
R.R. 1, Gunn, Alberta.

Here is a true story that happened at our farm the other day. When my Dad went out to start our truck he decided to check the oil and to our surprise when he lifted the hood out ran a mouse. Upon looking further we discovered the mouse had built a nest right on top of the engine. She must have wanted to keep her babies warm in the winter.

Gary Wood.
Gunn, Alberta.

Our dog had five puppies, but we killed them because Dad said one dog was enough. A little while after we got a kitten from our neighbor and our dog adopted it. It nurses and sleeps with the dog. The mother dog won't let anything hurt it. The kitten plays with the dog, and it seems to think the dog is its own mother.

Beverly Grant.
Rapid City, Man.

I had a Bantam hen and she had one chick. One morning I found her dead and the chick under her alive. I went to see the hen and he ran out from under her. My brother and I caught him. We took him to the chicken house and one of the hens took care of him till one day a pig killed him.

Donald Silver.
Huxley, Alta.

I'm writing a story to the Farm and Ranch Review. This is a true story. Here it is: "One day as I was walking through a bush on our farm I saw a chipmunk. I looked at him without moving. Then he ran away, so I went on. After a while I saw the same chipmunk. Then I knew why he really followed me, because I had a big bunch of nuts on a branch which I dragged on the ground. He wanted a nut, so I picked a few out of the branch and gave it to him. He took them and ran to a tree and climbed it and put it into a hole. Whenever I walk through that bush he follows me.

Dan Pawlinsky.
Square Hill, Sask.

This spring when my brother was building his house near ours, our cow wandered up to where the lumber was lying. There were a few pieces of paper lying on top which were the plans for the house. My brother just happened to notice the last piece of paper being eaten by our cow. So

Canadians Aroused Over U. S. Wheat Policies

By THE EDITOR

THE policy of the United States government in bonussing export sales of wheat has been very harmful to Canada. Last crop year it cost this country the sale of some fifty million bushels of wheat. Wheat exports on a substantial scale are vitally important to Canada's economic life. Over the years one-half of Alberta farmers' cash income comes from the sale of wheat and in Saskatchewan in excess of two-thirds of the farm cash income is derived from the sale of that cereal.

Prominent Canadians who have an intimate knowledge of what is going on in the international wheat trade, and particularly the methods being employed by the United States to get rid of surplus wheat, are doing some plain speaking. Rt. Hon. C. D. Howe, minister of trade and commerce, told the annual meeting of Saskatchewan Wheat Pool delegates that the United States would not sell any wheat at all if its exports were not subsidized. He stated further that the methods used by the United States to dispose of its wheat surpluses have been harmful, not only to Canada, but to the wheat situation in general.

George McIvor, chief commissioner of the Canadian Wheat Board, in a public utterance, said the Wheat Board's selling job has been greatly complicated by the surplus disposal program of the United States and, unless some restraint is administered, chaos will result. Mr. McIvor said that all Canada wants is fair competition in the markets of the world and this country will do all right with its natural advantage of pre-eminent quality of wheat, available at fair prices, for prompt shipment to all markets. But the intensification of the United States disposal program is hurting.

Dennis, my brother had to make his house by memory. The cow kept trying to chew boards and such after that so he put a fence up to keep her out.

Kenneth Still.
Box 164A, R.R.1.
Winnipeg, Man.

My Mama was peeling spuds one night, when she saw a funny looking one in the pan. It was about two and one half inches around, but was sort of divided almost in two. Thinking that it was a queer one she cut into it, or tried to at least, but the knife wouldn't go through. Looking closer, Mama saw that it had grown through a circle of wire.

Graham Spry, agent general for the Saskatchewan government in Great Britain and Europe, said taxpayers in the United States, Great Britain and continental Europe are bearing the burden of subsidizing their wheat farmers and it is with those taxpayers that the Canadian wheat farmers are competing. Said Mr. Spry: "In wheat marketing and wheat pricing the Canadian taxpayer is the least burdened in the world, and the Canadian wheat policy is the least artificial and the most sane of any country."

Mr. Spry pointed out that wheat is the second most important commodity in the world with a total production value of \$9,800,000,000 last year. It was surpassed only by rice, a competitive food grain, with a total value last year of \$11,200,000,000. What happens in the international trade in wheat is of great concern to the nations of the world, and more particularly to Canada.

The statements of the men quoted, and remarks by other prominent Canadians, indicate that people in high places in this country are determined to do stout battling on behalf of the wheat producers of this nation. Certainly the wheat policy of the United States, by means of which that country is sloughing its surplus grain wherever other countries will take it at whatever they will give for it, is doing serious harm to Canadian wheat growers and the Canadian economy.

Said Hon. Walter Harris, Canada's minister of finance, in a speech in New York city: "Wheat production is the principal source of income to the great majority of our western farmers and we, as a government, are bound to be greatly influenced by anything so vital to them and to our national economy."

I am 6 years old and in Grade two.
Linda M Moorhouse.
Breton, Alberta.

One day as I was walking for cows I heard a rustle in the bush. I loaded my gun and went into the bush. There I saw an eagle after a partridge. I yelled; the eagle came at me. Then I shot the eagle.

George Purdy.
R.R. No. 1, Gunn, Alta.

One day I went out hunting with my Dad and shot about four ducks. When my Mother cleaned one duck, she was all black inside from poisoned wheat and barley.

J. J. Wipf.
Box 40, Magrath, Alta.

Solution to November Crossword

GREGE	TROLL	PSALM	SLOTS
RELET	SEPIA	RETIA	TIBET
AVNE	ALST	ONEN	AAANR
VICE	TRIPPI	MIENS	INDUE
ELATER	SO TE	ILS	FINGERS
LET	RASH	NURSE	FINE AES
TOPE	TEDGE	TRENDS	
RAPIDS	GREES	SEALS	ELAN
AGILE	RAIDS	STAI	ACUTE
INEE	SADLY	PEARL	SPURTS
DID	CAVIL	PRAYS	EMPRESS
TALES	BEERS	STILE	
CARAVAN	GUESS	FLUTE	REI
HEAPED	RUINS	BLADE	TARN
ARIES	SAILS	ALICE	FRANK
ROAR	MOIST	FLACK	GLADES
STAPLE	BRISK	CLAM	
MAL	AIRS	SLEET	SEAM
ADELINA	SHEEN	PO	REIGNS
NOVEL	NEARS	ASTUTE	ROVE
ERVO	IDIS	TURU	PAIT
REFER	SERVE	ERICA	EDITS
ODORS	TRIED	SEVEN	TEPLEE

Alfalfa Down The Ages

By P. W. LUCE

ALFALFA has a history. Its origin is lost in the mists of time, but it is a fair guess that it was used as fodder three thousand years ago in what was then the civilized world. It has been vastly improved during the passing of the centuries, but, essentially, it is still the same great animal food.

In 481 B.C., alfalfa was introduced into Europe by Xerxes, an ambitious king of Persia. The plant must have been widely cultivated in the east, for Xerxes was able to bring vast quantities of the seed in his attempt to bring Greece under his thrall. He crossed the Hellespont and fought his way through Macedonia and Thrace with an army of 2,000,000 soldiers, some afoot, some ahorse. His transport was enormous, for advance was slow and the animals had to rest and be fed.

Xerxes established permanent camps wherever he stopped. He knew he would have to come back on this route, and he was dubious as to the ability of the country to provide food for his men and fodder for his horses. So he scattered alfalfa seed on the plains and at every stopping place, and green fields cheered the soldiers on their long hike back home after their utter defeat at Plataea.

Xerxes returned to Persia, a bitter disappointed man.

Alfalfa remained in Europe, a triumphant invader.

Cleo Got Seeds

The men of Macedonia gradually spread the plant to all parts of their country, though this took many centuries, and the men of Thrace did the same thing. The little seeds were carried afar off, and the Romans picked up many as spoils of war. They knew a good thing when they saw it, and they considered these seeds to be worthy of presentation to Cleopatra when that famous lady was at the zenith of her power in Northern Egypt.

The plant did well in Egypt, and still does well there. It gradually spread through Northern Africa, where it has now been firmly established for many hundreds of years.

Very early in the eighth century, the Saracens brought alfalfa to Spain when they conquered that country. This must be considered one of the few advantages that can be credited to the Moslems, and it remained a dormant benefit for the Spaniards until the middle of the sixteenth century, when it was taken to South America and proved to be a considerable asset in the domination of the new world.

Incidentally, the word "alfalfa" is of Spanish origin. This is perhaps the best-known word used to describe the plant, but there are many others. "Lucerne", generally used in many parts of Europe, comes from the town of Lucerne, in Switzerland, where fodder is needed nearly all the year round.

In Great Britain a great many farmers speak of "medic", or "purple medic", and in Belgium the plant is known as "Brazilian" or "Chilean" clover. Any change in the legume, however, is believed to be due to soil conditions and weather variations, rather than to essential differences.

Started in B.C.

Forty years ago, when I was ranching in the Cariboo, in northern British Columbia, I was one of the first men to try growing alfalfa. I bought seed known as "Semapalatinsk" from somebody in Saskatchewan, who was

reputed to have imported it from Siberia. It was reputed to do very well in spite of long spells of zero weather, and I scattered it with high hopes.

The Siberian alfalfa grew, but I had to consider it an experiment rather than a success. My soil was rather poor, anyway.

Alfalfa thrives lustily in the Cariboo today, but I am not there to harvest it. Enough varieties have been tried to find a few that can stand up to the rigors of the winter climate, and two or three crops a season are commonplace.

One of the early enthusiasts for alfalfa culture was Louis Le Bourdais of Quesnel, a native son who rose to be a member of the legislature. Le Bourdais was the most famous Cariboo publicist of all time, and never neglected an opportunity to broadcast the praises of his beloved country.

In his desire to make northern British Columbia known as the ideal cattle country, he wished to make everybody aware that alfalfa was better there than anywhere else in western Canada. To emphasize this he had alfalfa seeds ground into flour, and had this baked into biscuits which he distributed to the members of the legislature so that they could taste and enjoy the sweet fruits of the earth.

A pleasing and forceful speaker, Le Bourdais convinced his hearers that they should munch the alfalfa biscuits in public. The members of the house acquiesced, but none was particularly enthusiastic.

The cook had forgotten to add the necessary ingredient of salt to the biscuit dough!

In times of drought, alfalfa is the life saver of the cattle in the Argentinies. The plant draws the necessary moisture from below the sunbaked surface, and produces a fair foliage even during the hottest summer. Without this, the immense herds on the pampas would be almost wiped out.

Five annual cuttings are usual in Australia, under irrigation or along the coast, and the yield is always pretty fair elsewhere, even in times of terrible droughts. A great quantity is shipped to districts short of hay.

Alfalfa in the Orient

In Japan, where intensive culture is an absolute necessity, alfalfa is the much needed medium for the increase of small herds. Agricultural lands are limited, and there is no plant that can be depended upon to give so much satisfaction.

The number of varieties of alfalfa is almost infinite. From the tropical parts of Africa to the frigid steppes of the Arctic, the plant has been developed to meet zonal conditions. Everywhere it thrives, producing larger crops than any other perennial. It has been found adaptable to change, and though the present variety has been the result of long and often costly experiment, the final result has been satisfactory.

Towards the end of the past century the ordinary alfalfa could not survive the severe winter of the middle states. A new kind was developed by Wendelin Grimm, of Carver County, Nebraska, who spent a great many years in the careful selection of promising plants, and who added millions of dollars to the agricultural wealth of the country.

A native of Baden, Germany, where the climate is warm and genial, Grimm knew the value of alfalfa.

He took some of the seeds from his old home to the new land, and when these withered he determined that he would develop a more rigorous kind. He knew there were many varieties of alfalfa in Europe, and he got hold of every possible kind and set out to grow one that would defy Jack Frost.

It is said that he carried on his experiments for nearly 50 years before he was satisfied. He amassed no great wealth, but his work lives on. The species he found most suitable is medicago media, which originated in Central Asia, and which had reached Baden late in the sixteenth century after travelling through Persia, Greece, Rome, and Central Europe. It had been about 2,500 years on the way.

Alfalfa Down the Ages

Editor's Note — One of the first men to introduce alfalfa into Alberta was the late Don Bark, agricultural superintendent for the Canadian Pacific Railway at Brooks. He imported seed known as Lyman's Grimm, Lyman being a son of the old German who brought the original seed shipment from Europe.

Results From Fertilizer Use

RESULTS of experimental work with fertilizers conducted on a dark brown loam soil at the Experimental Farm, Canada Department of Agriculture, Scott, Sask., have shown a 6.7 per acre average increase in yield of wheat on summerfallow from an application of 40 pounds per acre of 11-48-0, over a period of eleven years. For summerfallow grain crops on clay loam to heavy clay, 11-48-0 at 40 - 60 pounds per acre recommended and on sandy loam to loam, 11-48-0 at 30 - 40 pounds.

Dry seasons make fertilization of stubble crop somewhat risky. Where a heavy stubble and combine straw are worked into the soil a serious shortage of available nitrogen may result. For this reason stubble crops require a fertilizer containing a relatively large proportion of nitrogen. Farmers wishing to try fertilizers on stubble crops should use 16-20-0 at 75 - 100 pounds per acre.

For flax, where fertilizer is being applied in contact with the seed, not more than 30 pounds per acre of 11-48-0 should be used. Higher rates can be used if the fertilizer is placed separately from the seed.

For fall rye, 11-48-0 at 40 pounds per acre is recommended.

Grasses are heavy users of plant nutrients. For older stands of grass or grass legume mixtures containing mostly grass, use ammonium nitrate 33.5-0-0 at 75 - 150 pounds per acre. September application of 33.5-0-0 at 75-150 pounds per acre is recommended for grass (e.g., brome grass)

for seed production. Spring applications give better yields of forage.

Good fertilizer practices not only increase yields directly but also indirectly by minimizing such crop hazards as rust, root rots, frost and insects.

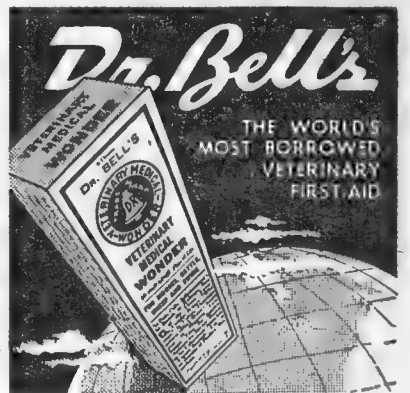
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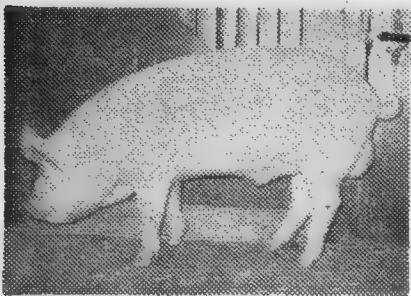
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Gr. champion Yorkshire boar, Edmonton fall sale. Owner, K. Hougham, Frenchman's Butte, Sask.

The 1955 crop of malting barley in this country is one of the largest and of the finest quality ever produced. It seems to be finding a ready market.

Of the 45,600,000 acres planted to cereal crops in Canada's four western provinces, about 12,000,000 were sprayed with 2,4-D chemical weed killer in 1954.

Along The Western Farm Front

Stubble burning is bad in any way it is looked at because straw and stubble provide the best protection against wind erosion. Then rotten straw provides the very life to soil.

The Alberta Department of Agriculture, Edmonton, is distributing bulletins and plans for beef cattle housing and equipment. This material is free and includes barns, sheds, corrals, feed bunks, self-feeders, stock squeezes, silos and gates.

Canadian Grain Commentary, published by Toronto Elevators Ltd., says feed grain prices in this country have been maintained at higher levels than in the United States, which will result in trouble if and when surpluses of pork and beef cattle develop in Canada.

There are then well over three hun-

dred Alberta young people being trained for rural living at the Alberta Schools of Agriculture and Home Economics. The five months spent at the Schools are long in facts and fun and thus seem all the shorter in terms of time.

The estimated egg production in Canada for the first eight months of 1955 was 256.8 million dozen, compared with 258.9 million dozen in the same period of the previous year. In the 8 months 206,669,000 dozen were sold for market, compared with 213,586,000 dozen for the same period in the previous year.

Saskatchewan students taking their first year of veterinary medicine at the Ontario Veterinary College are: Lennart K. Anderson, Shaunavon; Albert Bildfell, Foam Lake; Elmer A. Janzen, Laird; Clayton D. Doty, Carleton Place; Magnus M. Newland, Webb; Donald F. McDonald, Perdue; Sigard W. Schroeder, Regina.

Milk production in Canada is running at the rate of 17 billion lbs. a year. About 6.8 billion lbs., or 40 per cent, is sold in liquid form. The balance must be apportioned to the various manufactured products, butter, cheese, canned milk, ice cream, etc. Ontario and Quebec accounts for two-thirds of all the milk produced in Canada.

Manyberries Range Experimental station is crossing buffalo with domestic cattle with the object of producing a hardier beef steer. The new critter is named cattalo and with a cross of $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ buffalo blood the product can withstand much greater cold. Highland cattle are also being crossed with British breeds with the same objective.

The sale of the Rockwood Holstein herd from St. Norbert, Manitoba, was held at Oakville, Ontario. Ninety-two head brought \$101,100.00, an average of \$1,098.00 a head. Top price was \$10,000 paid for Rockwood Anna Rockette, an 8-year-old cow with a yearly record of 24,131 lbs. of milk and 896 lbs. of fat. Alberta Seiling, of Elmira, Ontario, was the purchaser.

The South American republic of Colombia has been a big purchaser of purebred Canadian Holstein cattle, and the total value of this year's exports thereto may reach a million dollars. Canadian Holsteins are hardier and acclimatize better in Colombia than those from any other countries, according to top Colombian authorities on that breed of cattle.

There are 2,000 active beekeepers in Saskatchewan with about 22,000 colonies. Total production in 1955 was 3½ million pounds. In 1945 there were 10,000 beekeepers in that province and 75,000 colonies. S. E. Bland, acting provincial apiarist, thinks there should be a return to beekeeping on a substantial scale as the mild, light-colored honey produced in Saskatchewan is preferred by consumers and good markets exist in British Columbia and Eastern Canada.

There was a heavy storm at sea and the captain was approached by a nervous woman. "Captain," she asked, "are we in great danger?"

"Madam," he replied, "we are in the hands of God."

"Oh," she exclaimed, "is it as bad as that?"

Outlook for Hogs

THE hog and pork industry will almost certainly not have the smooth sailing in the year ahead that was the experience of the past two years. That is the opinion of the Meat Packers Council of Canada.

Hog deliveries are estimated for this autumn at 8 per cent above that of a year ago and are expected to be 5 per cent above that of last year during the first quarter of 1956.

From 1948 to 1954 income from hogs in Canada averaged \$328 million a year. For the first six months of 1955 income from the sale of hogs was \$37 million below that of the first six months of 1954.

It would appear that for the six months ending and including next April marketings of hogs will exceed the weekly average of domestic disappearance, recorded in the first half of 1955, by at least 20,000 pigs a week.

Lower prices for pork is liable to increase domestic consumption, and that is the main hope of the hog producer. Exports to the United States is likely to dwindle, as that country has large surpluses. Great Britain has a bacon contract with Denmark which expires in the autumn of 1956. Exports to the U.K. seem to be at least a year off. The Danish deal provides for a minimum price of \$33.00 per cwt. for 466,000,000 lbs. If U.K. hog producers get better prices the price to the Danes will be upped.

The short-term outlook for Canadian hog producers is not very bright. It may be better for the long term.

Care Of Breeding Stock

SELECTION, of individuals to be added to the breeding herd, is usually practised to best advantage when pigs are about 200 pounds in weight and in market condition. In such selection attention should be given to type, mammary development, strength of bone, individual performance and performance of close relatives.

Once selection has been completed, much of the success, in the ensuing year, depends on how well brood sows and gilts are fed and handled prior to and during the pregnancy period. Sows that are in good condition when bred and well nourished during gestation are more likely to farrow strong, healthy litters than sows that are thin and in poor health at breeding and poorly fed during pregnancy.

A well-balanced ration can be provided by the use of farm-grown grains in connection with small amounts of protein and mineral supplements. If it is necessary to use a single grain, oats would be the most satisfactory. Barley and wheat, fed alone, are too fattening and should not make up more than 50 per cent of the grain part of the ration. A ration that has been satisfactory at the Experimental Farm, Brandon, is composed of six parts oats, two parts barley, one part protein-mineral supplement, and one part alfalfa meal. The protein-mineral supplement includes 60 per cent soybean oil meal, 20 per cent meat meal, 10 per cent fish meal, five per cent ground limestone and five per cent iodized salt. Alfalfa meal adds bulk to the diet and is a good source of Vitamin A. If alfalfa meal is not available good quality hay can be fed in racks.

In addition to receiving a balanced ration, it is important that brood sows obtain ample exercise. Such exercise can be induced by placing the feeding troughs at a distance from the sow shelters. — Brandon Experimental Farm.

May
the Joy
and Peace
of Christmas
bless your
household and
bring happiness to
those within and
to those who cross your
threshold during the
Christmas Season

UNITED GRAIN GROWERS LIMITED

Canada's Original Farmer Cooperative 1906-1955

Dress Up Your Kitchen!

HERE are two excellent ideas that are practically costless and will make your kitchen look dressed up and make your work much easier. The first idea is the oilcloth valance at the window. The curtains are a sheer, inexpensive green material and to make the valance the homemaker got 18 inches of bright orange oilcloth, laid it on a table and with a large dinner plate cut out the large scallops you see here. Once that was done she pinned it over the curtain-rod, stood back and viewed her job with pride! The second idea is to

store all staples such as baking-powder, soda, cocoa, tapioca, etc., in glass jars such as mayonnaise comes in. You can use quart fruit jars but those have to be bought while if you save the glass jars in which staples come there will be no cost. Attach gummed labels to the front of the jars for quick and easy identification and the glass jar is ready for storing besides others in a neat row in your kitchen cupboards. When any staple is nearly gone you can see it and get more, and that is quite an advantage.

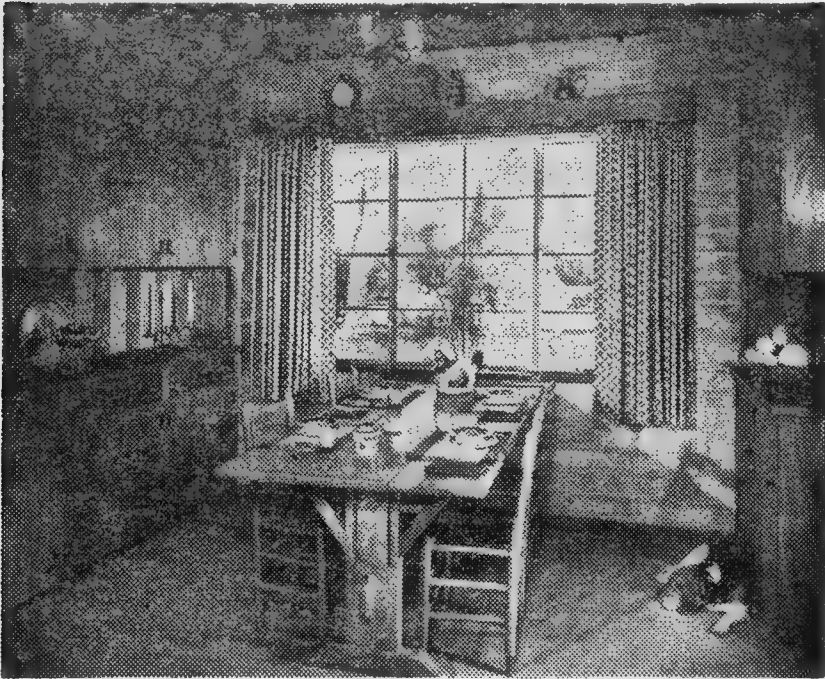
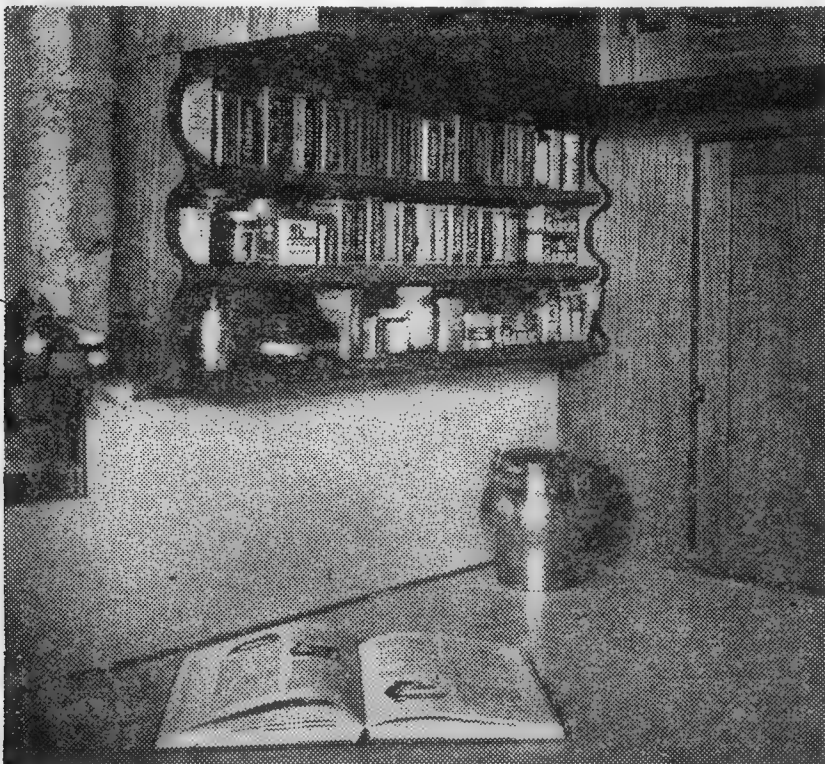


Photo by Bell-Tucson.

Fun eating in kitchen like this with blue and white curtains and china, bright place mats. Man-of-house made raw-hide seats to budget chairs. Lamp fixture is made of "floaters" used in plumbing.



Worth copying is the spice shelf, under cupboard. Saves cluttering cupboard with small containers, makes them easily accessible. Door is pass through to dining-room. — Bell, Tucson.

ALBERTA'S OIL MONEY

During the first week of November the Alberta government realized \$21,610,000 from the sale of oil rights. This brings the total cash received by the Alberta government from the sale of oil rights since 1946 to \$415,000,000.

The biggest bids in this recent sale were for rights in the Pembina field. Tennessee Oil & Gas Co. paid \$6,555,769 for 9 parcels; Seaboard Oil,

\$6,246,849 for 8 parcels, and Home Oil, \$5,207,500 for 10 parcels in the Pembina field.

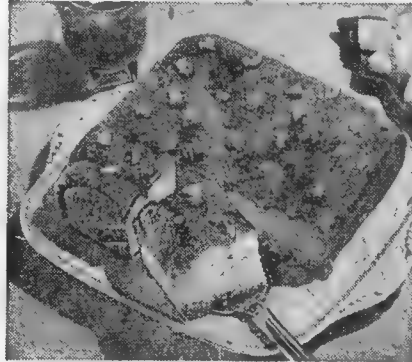
* * *

Patient to pretty nurse: "I'm in love with you — I don't want to get well."

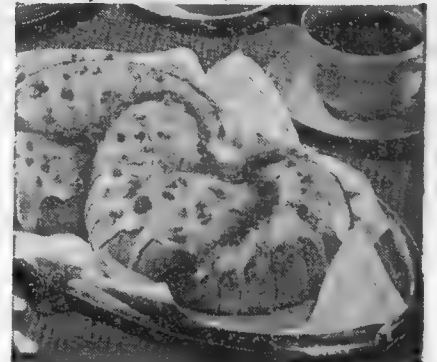
Nurse: "You won't. The doctor just saw you kissing me and he's in love with me too."

One Basic Dough makes 4 yummy dessert treats!

1. Cinnamon Square



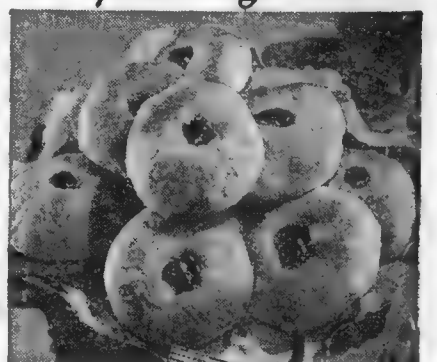
2. Apricot Figure 8



3. Fruit Coil



4. Sugared Jelly Buns



Amazingly Versatile Dough with new Active Dry Yeast!

You make a single quick-rising dough with the new Fleischmann Active Dry Yeast... your oven produces four thrilling dessert treats! When you bake at home, see how this sure, quick-acting yeast helps multiply variety on your table. Needs no refrigeration—get a month's supply!



NEEDS NO REFRIGERATION

Basic COFFEE CAKE Dough

Scald

2 cups milk

Remove from heat and cool to lukewarm. In the meantime, measure into a large bowl

½ cup lukewarm water

2 teaspoons granulated sugar

and stir until sugar is dissolved. Sprinkle with contents of

2 envelopes Fleischmann's Active Dry Yeast

Let stand 10 minutes, THEN stir well. Stir in lukewarm milk and

4 well-beaten eggs

1 teaspoon vanilla

Sift together twice

7 cups once-sifted bread flour

½ cup granulated sugar

1 tablespoon salt

Cut in finely

¾ cup butter

¾ cup shortening

Stir about 6 cupsful into the yeast mixture; beat until smooth and elastic.

Work in remaining dry ingredients and

2½ cups (about) once-sifted bread flour

Turn out on lightly-floured board and knead dough lightly until smooth and elastic. Place in a greased bowl and grease top of dough. Cover and set dough in a warm place, free from draught, and let rise until doubled in bulk. Turn out dough on lightly-floured board and knead lightly until smooth. Divide into 4 equal portions and finish as follows:

1. CINNAMON SQUARE

Combine ¼ cup granulated sugar and 1 tsp. cinnamon; sprinkle on board. Place one portion of dough on sugar mixture and roll into a 12-inch square; fold dough from back to front, then from left to right; repeat this rolling and folding twice, using a little flour on the board, if necessary; seal edges. Place in greased 8-inch square pan; press out to edges. Grease top. Cover and let rise until doubled. Cream 2 tbsps. butter or margarine, ¼ cup granulated sugar and ¼ tsp. cinnamon; mix in ¼ cup broken walnuts and 1 tbsp. milk. Spread over risen dough. Bake at 350°, 30 to 35 mins.

2. APRICOT FIGURE EIGHT

Combine ¼ cup brown sugar, 1 tbsp. flour, ¼ tsp. mace and ¼ cup finely-chopped nuts. Roll out one portion of dough into a rectangle about 22 by 6 inches. Spread with 2 tbsps. soft butter or margarine; sprinkle with nut mixture. Fold dough lengthwise into 3 layers. Twist dough from end to end; form into figure 8 on greased pan. Grease top. Cover and let rise until doubled. Bake at 350°, about 30 mins. Fill crevices of hot figure 8 with thick apricot jam; spread other surfaces with white icing; sprinkle with nuts.

3. FRUIT COIL

Knead into one portion of dough, 2 tbsps. grated orange rind, ¼ cup raisins, ¼ cup chopped nuts and ¼ cup well-drained cut-up red and green maraschino cherries. Roll out dough; using the hands, into a rope about 30 inches long. Beginning in the centre of a greased deep 8-inch round pan, swirl rope loosely around and around to edge of pan. Brush with 2 tbsps. melted butter or margarine; sprinkle with mixture of ¼ cup granulated sugar and 1 tsp. cinnamon. Cover and let rise until doubled. Bake at 350°, 35 to 40 mins.

4. SUGARED JELLY BUNS

Cut one portion of dough into 12 equal-sized pieces. Shape each piece into a smooth round ball; roll in melted butter or margarine, then in granulated sugar. Place, well apart, on greased pan; flatten slightly. Cover and let rise until doubled. Form an indentation in the top of each bun by twisting the handle of a knife in the top; fill with jelly. Cover and let rise 15 mins. longer. Bake at 350°, 15 to 18 mins.



Aunt Sal Suggests

Where did this last year go to?
It seems like yesterday,
I sent you hearty greetings,
For a happy Christmas Day.

SOME smart person once said.
"When a woman stops hating to
wash dishes, and thinks that Christ-

mas comes too soon then she is getting old." If that statement is true then I'm not 'getting' I'm 'got'. In the first place I don't mind doing dishes one little bit. I fact some of my best ideas come to me while my hands are wet and soapy. There is a little pad and pencil hanging up over my sink and I wish I had a dollar for every time that I've stopped to wipe my hands and scribbled down a few words to remind me of something I want to write later on. As for Christmas, did it really used to rush at us as fast as it does now? Dearie me, when I think of the cakes, cookies, puddings, pies etc., etc., to make, the gifts to choose, buy, wrap and mail, the cards to address, I say over and over, "I'll never, never in this world get ready in time!" Yet

I laugh at myself as I say it for some how or other we do get ready and if we happen to leave something undone no one (except ourselves) need know about it.

Let's stop ranting and wailing and get down to definite matters in regard to the grand season. One of your readers wrote in asking if I knew if that contraption that holds cards could be bought. I did make a few inquiries but the clerks seemed to think I was talking a foreign language. You can make rather a cute substitute by cutting a strip of chicken wire, paint it with gilt paint and stick your cards between flaps of the wire. It is rather hard to describe but I have seen it done. I find thumb tacks and cellulose tape my two pet helpers when I'm work-

ing out a Christmas card display. If your home has a ridged moulding over doors and windows of course, they are just made to order for holding rows of cards. Before the festive season arrives put away most of the bric a brac, photos and such so you won't have a too-cluttered look around the house. Some houses still have picture moulding up near the ceiling and this type too is tops for tucking cards under. Another cute trick is to hang long strips of red felt or ribbon from the ceiling down and pin or paste the cards onto it. And of course cards can be decked onto the tree itself, but I always seemed to have enough gew-gaws to string onto the tree without depending on cards. Praise be, one doesn't have to be either an artist or interior decorator to achieve a gay gala look round the house at this time of year.

This year, for a change, I'm not giving you either my pet cherry cake recipe or that one for my unbaked Xmas cake. Surely everyone has both of these recipes by this time. Here is a recipe that was sent in by one of our 'sharing neighbors'. She tells us that she has been using it for 15 years with outstanding results so she felt she'd like to share it with all you readers. Now I expect most of you have your big cakes made long before this, but this white one won't need such long ripening period so why not give it a try.

WHITE CHRISTMAS CAKE

White Christmas Cake (sent in by Mrs. A. P. of Thorhill, Alta.) 1 cup butter, 1 cup white sugar, 6 eggs, 2 cups all purpose flour, 1 lemon (juice and rind), $\frac{3}{4}$ lb. Sultana raisins, 2 ozs. blanched almonds, $\frac{1}{4}$ lb. cherries, $\frac{1}{4}$ lb. pineapple, $\frac{1}{4}$ lb. mixed peel, $\frac{1}{2}$ tsp. salt.

Now I'm not going to give you the method for surely you know you must cream butter and sugar and add eggs one at a time and be sure to flour the fruits and nuts so they won't sink and, seeing there is no leavening in this cake except eggs, the batter must be beaten until it yells for mercy. In fact the whole batter must be beaten more than one usually beats a fruit cake. And also in this cake they ask us to separate the eggs so you add the stiffly beaten egg whites last. Bake in slow oven 275 F. for 2 hours or until tested 'done'.

Even the very latest instructions tell us to line the bake tins with three layers of brown paper with the top layer greased, but there is a new trick. Wonder if you have tried lining the pans with foil. That is good too and not nearly as mussy. A gentle reminder that if you use pyrex ware for any of your baking have the temperature 25 degrees lower than for other cooking utensils.

FRUIT MINCEMEAT

For those of you who object to the suet in mincemeat I'm sure your tummies will like this recipe better that is made all of fruits. It suits me to a "T".

1 lb. butter, 1 lb. currants, 1 lb. raisins, $1\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. chopped apples, 1 lb. mixed peel, 1 tblsp. each of cinnamon and nutmeg, 1 lemon juice and rind, $1\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. white sugar.

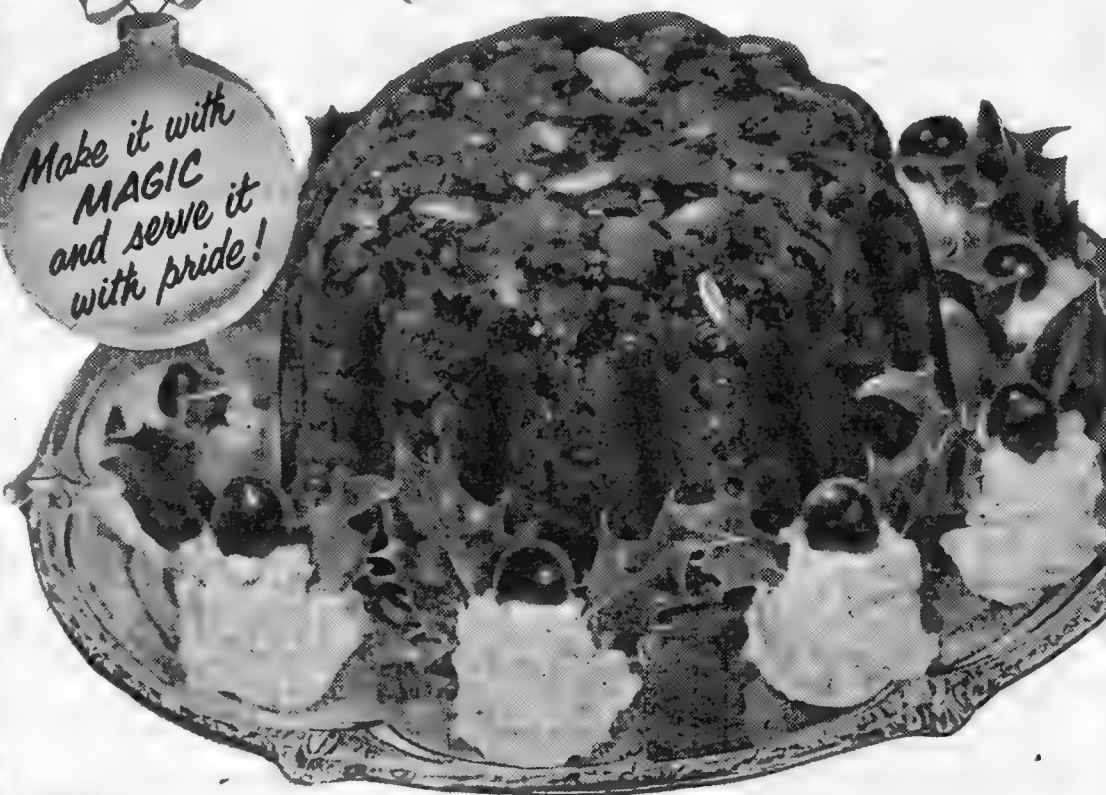
This requires no cooking. Just melt the butter and stir all the fruits into it. Pack into a jar and keep in cool place ready for tarts or pies or filling for cookies. Very yummy.

Sing heigh-ho! for this sumptuous Magic Fruit Pudding

HERE'S Magic's modern version of a marvellous old recipe... the fruitiest fruit pudding and the most sumptuous flavor that ever crowned holiday feasting! It will bring you a rich reward of "season's compliments"—for you made it yourself!

Nothing like Magic Baking Powder to give you that light, tempting texture... to bring out the spicy-rich goodness of your chosen ingredients. Use Magic for all your holiday baking.

Make it with
MAGIC
and serve it
with pride!



MAGIC FRUIT PUDDING

$1\frac{1}{2}$ c. seedless raisins
1 c. currants
1 c. cut-up seeded raisins
 $\frac{3}{4}$ c. cut-up mixed candied peels and citron
 $\frac{1}{2}$ c. almonds, blanched and halved
 $1\frac{1}{2}$ c. once-sifted pastry flour or $1\frac{1}{2}$ c. once-sifted all-purpose flour
3 tps. Magic Baking Powder
1 tsp. salt

1 tsp. ground cinnamon
 $\frac{1}{2}$ tsp. ground ginger
 $\frac{1}{2}$ tsp. grated nutmeg
 $\frac{1}{4}$ tsp. ground cloves
1 c. chopped suet
1 c. coarse soft bread crumbs
 $1\frac{1}{4}$ c. lightly-packed brown sugar
 $1\frac{1}{2}$ c. shredded raw apple
1 c. shredded raw carrot
3 eggs, well beaten
 $\frac{1}{2}$ c. cold coffee

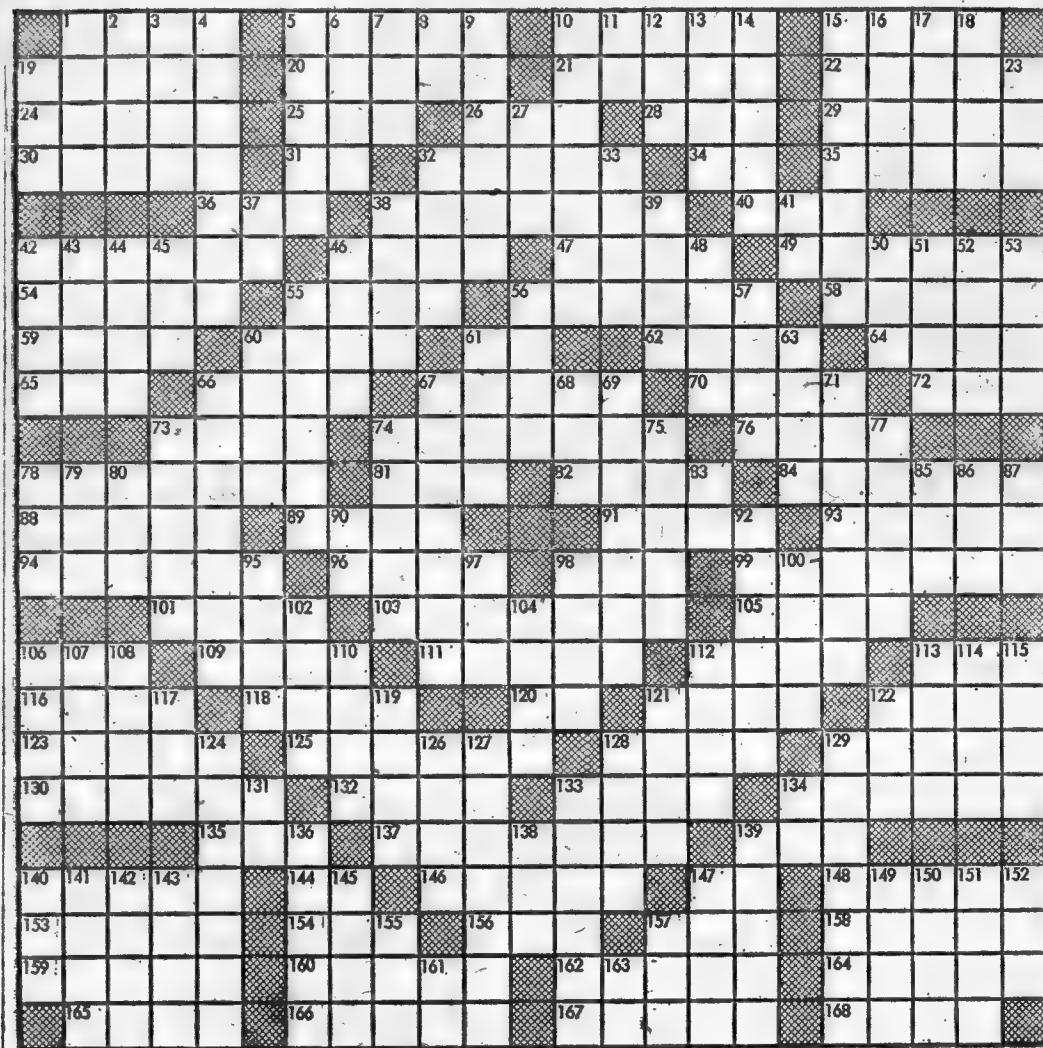
Wash and dry seedless raisins and currants; add seeded raisins, peels, citron and almonds. Mix and sift 3 times, flour, Magic Baking Powder, salt and spices; add fruits and nuts, a few at a time; mix well; mix in suet, bread crumbs, sugar, apple and carrot. Combine eggs and coffee; add to pudding and mix thoroughly. Three-quarters fill greased large pudding mould with batter; cover with wet cookery parchment or with greased heavy paper; tie down. Steam, closely covered, for 4 hours. Uncover pudding until cold, then wrap closely and store 2 or 3 weeks. To re-heat pudding, steam $1\frac{1}{2}$ hours. Serve with hard sauce or any other suitable sauce. Yield: 10 servings.



Magic costs
less than 1¢
per average baking

826-4

Our Crossword Puzzle



HORIZONTAL

- | | | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1 Went fast | 52 Period of time | 112 Fish |
| 5 Visible vapor | 54 Valley | 113 Stroke lightly |
| 10 Thin, narrow boards | 65 Compass point | 116 God of war |
| 15 Rail | 66 Biblical weed | 118 Once around track (pl.) |
| 19 Invented telegraph | 67 French painter | 120 Syllable of scale |
| 20 Analyze grammatically | 70 Fall in drops | 121 Preserves |
| 21 Long-legged bird | 72 Guided | 122 Gavilan's pet punch |
| 22 Newspapers collectively | 73 Levantine ketch | 123 Memento |
| 24 Large dogs | 74 Violin player | 125 Mediteranean sailing vessel |
| 25 Equipment | 76 Biblical city | 128 Game |
| 26 Golf mound | 78 Carriage | 129 One of low intelligence |
| 28 Period of time | 81 Fish | 130 Kind of tree |
| 29 Lift | 82 Ox of the Celebes | 132 Covers with pitch |
| 30 Cupolas | 84 Storehouses | 133 Stringed instrument |
| 31 Mulberry | 88 Feminine name | 135 Extinct bird |
| 32 Ravines | 89 Former senator from Louisiana | 137 Glean |
| 34 Teutonic deity | 91 Russian council before Bolshevik revolution | 139 Among |
| 35 Esoteric | 93 Tropical African tree | 140 Smoke |
| 36 Consume | 94 Corrupts | 144 River of Asia |
| 38 Deserved | 96 Legal charges | 146 Violet |
| 40 Buddhist pillar | 98 Encountered | 147 Japanese measure |
| 42 Dry, sandy wasteland | 99 Told | 148 Lazy person |
| 46 Noises | 101 Afternoon parties | 153 Boredom |
| 47 Ostrich-like birds | 103 Man's natural height | 154 Bright saying |
| 49 Cause | 105 Underground stem of certain plants | 156 Golf mound |
| 54 Prevent | 106 Flying mammal | 157 Cereal grain |
| 55 Measure of capacity | 109 Immerse | 158 Net |
| 56 Author | 111 Locations | 159 Climbing plant |
| 58 Prolonged surrounding by enemy | | 160 Stow |
| 59 Gull-like bird | | 162 Crest |
| 60 Peel | | 164 Cares for |
| 61 51 (Rom. num.) | | 165 Siamese coins |
| | | 166 Pigpens |
| | | 167 Guide |
| | | 168 Units of energy |

VERTICAL

- | | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1 Alone | 46 Dreadful | 107 Extent |
| 2 British baby carriage | 48 Sow | 109 Narrate |
| 3 Anglo-Saxon slave | 50 Assist | 110 Small |
| 4 Dinner course | 51 Close | 113 Kind of meat |
| 5 Herring | 52 Eye | 114 Succulent plant |
| 6 Caudal appendage | 53 Require | 115 Man's nickname |
| 7 Unit of energy | 55 Package | 117 Nickname for relative |
| 8 While | 56 Breeze | 119 Antlered animal |
| 9 Distance measure (pl.) | 57 Unusual | 121 Small beds |
| 10 Haven | 60 Couple | 122 Popular festival of Japan |
| 11 French article | 61 Load | 124 Totes |
| 12 Form of "to be" | 63 Disturb | 126 British street car |
| 13 Ripped | 66 Mocked | 127 Landed properties |
| 14 Growl | 67 Dwarfs | 128 Unadulterated |
| 15 Fairies | 68 Guido's | 129 Dressmaker |
| 16 North African seaport | 69 High note | 131 A volume |
| 17 Part of harness | 71 Proffers | 133 Pries |
| 18 South African fox | 73 Scrimp | 134 The gods |
| 19 Rabid | 74 Money | 136 Cards |
| 23 Weight of India | 75 Course of travel | 138 Color |
| 27 Man's name | 77 Very rich man | 139 Bishop's headdress |
| 32 Small depression | 78 Fondle | 140 Celebrated (abbr.) |
| 33 Prefix: half | 79 Palm leaf (var.) | 141 Dolphinlike cetaceans |
| 37 By | 80 Capuchin monkey | 142 Small insect |
| 38 Excavation for ore | 83 Form of "to be" | 143 Female relative |
| 39 Obligation | 85 Contented murmur (var.) | 145 Vessel |
| 41 Land | 86 Before | 147 Rant |
| 42 Fruit | 87 Mournful | 149 Animal |
| 43 Level | 90 Belonging to | 150 Fish |
| 44 Withered | 92 Animal lacking pigment | 151 Finishes |
| 45 Sea eagle | 95 Cruise | 152 Thing in law |
| | 97 Juice of plant | 155 Prefix: three |
| | 98 Silent | 157 Poem |
| | 100 Arctic birds | 161 Earth goddess |
| | 102 Mineral springs | 163 Pronoun |
| | 104 Ripped | |
| | 106 Part of fishhook | |

Solution on Page 31

Health and Happiness

Thumb sucking in very small children need not be a serious problem, out if it extends past his first year, it may be because he is afraid, jealous, bored or has a fear of scoldings.

Fear is contagious. Children are not born with fears of natural things, but they may acquire them if older members of the family set a bad example, by showing fear of darkness, thunder or harmless animals. Threatening a child with the "bogeyman" or other frightening things may cause fears that could last a lifetime.

The contagious diseases of childhood may have after effects that will influence the health in adulthood. Impairment such as deafness, faulty sight, diseased kidneys and other weakness may follow such diseases as whooping cough, diphtheria or smallpox, each of which could be prevented by simple immunization in infancy.

Eight hours sleep is about the normal amount required by the average person, although age, physical condition and occupation may increase the amount needed. It is advisable to find out the amount that seems to suit the individual and then try to keep to a regular schedule.

Fresh fruit should be washed before it is eaten, to remove dirt, dust, remains of insecticides with which the fruit was sprayed early in its growth, and bacteria left by insects or handling.

A baby's version of his daily dozen is the kicking and squirming he performs when he is free from clothes or coverings. At the time of his bath, he should be allowed this freedom, in order that he may exercise his muscles and bones. He should be protected from all draft during this time.

A skin rash may be due to some simple cause or to an allergy or skin disease. It may also be a symptom of one of the contagious diseases. It should receive medical attention, so that the trouble may be diagnosed and, if necessary, the rest of the family or fellow workers protected against infection.

Faulty diet may be the cause of a persistent feeling of fatigue. Poor eating habits, in which there are insufficient proteins, minerals or vitamins, may seriously affect the health. Foods rich in iron will enrich the blood and help to prevent anemia.

The name "Hallux Valgus" means union but the scientific name doesn't hurt any the less. This painful foot deformity is often the result of ill-fitting shoes in childhood. Children's feet usually change one whole size in two months and this should be allowed for at the time of purchase.

Wait Till She Sneezes

The easterner thought he could ride and so climbed on a cow pony. A minute later he painfully picked himself out of the dust of the corral. "Man, oh, man," he said, "but she bucked something fierce!" "Bucked?" remarked a nearby cowboy. "She only coughed!"



"Range Laws"

The Editor:

I have just been reading your issue of November 5, and on page 10 I noticed a poem entitled "Range Laws", but the name of the one who wrote it was not there. It was Harry Otterson who is now living in Shaunavon, Sask. He came to this country in the early years with cattle drives from the south. He and his wife are now very old people. He has written many such poems as the one in your paper, including a sketch of the people who were here with him in those early days. I think they would like to hear from your paper as it would please them very much. I, myself, am pleased to see the poem in your issue.

James J. Brown.

Climax, Sask.

Ed. Note:—We have seen the poem printed many times but never knew who wrote it. Our congratulations to Mr. Otterson for being the author of the finest cowboy ballad we have ever read. (See page 10, November issue.)

Praise For Bevington

The Editor:

We were, indeed, pleased to see a letter in a recent issue of the Organized Farmer, written by that grand old veteran of the U.F.A., George Bevington of Winterburn.

It was also gratifying to know that he has not lost sight of the vital cause of past, present and future economic chaos, — the present debt creating financial system. Over twenty years ago I listened to his masterly exposure of the failure of the economic set-up to give the producer the financial means to market the products of his labor.

Could not Mr. Bevington be persuaded to put his ideas into book form that they might be used as a study for present and future generations of farm people?

Last night as we listened to the good news!!! that Western farmers were to be loaned money at five per cent, on stored grain, we saw anew the bankruptcy of our leaders at Ottawa and the absolute need for action. The failure of our financial system to meet the needs of the farmers is evident to all. Let the F.U.A. cease to deal with trivial things and boldly with determination fight on this one vital issue. You will then need no membership round-up drive!

G. A. Fretwell.

Clive, Alta.

Growing Early Corn

The Editor:

I read Gordon McLaren's letter with interest as I developed a sweet corn much earlier than Rutherford. The University of Saskatchewan tested it and found it to be much earlier and a heavier producer than the average corn. This year I had a new cross which produced larger ears with nicer color. I have about seven or eight cresses over the 15 years I have experimented. At Dawson Creek my latest cross was the only one that ripened. Here it is ripe the first week in August.

I have distributed all the seed I can spare to farmers across Saskatchewan

with the exception of 2 lbs. of old crosses. I grow my corn on a patch only 6 x 20 and have all we can eat and still have 30 to 40 ears for seed. I crossed Golden Bantam with an Australian corn, then recrossed the best ears with an Ontario corn, Derry, and one ear out of a whole patch of Eaton's earliest. Now I have to plant my corn every week so that I may have pollen to cross, and only got one ear in 1954. This year I got 20 with very large, bright yellow kernels. Next year I hope to have a larger patch so that I can distribute more. Enclosed is a few kernels of the latest.

O. L. Bechtel.

Kelvington, Sask.

More About Butter

The Editor:

It was the letter in the October Farm and Ranch Review by A. A. Derrick entitled "The Butter Problem" that certainly calls for a reply. In the first place the above mentioned individual is critical of the government's price assistance and farmers combined for the present price of butter. In the second place he, or she, states that it is possible to get other things just as good and much more economical for the price of butter. Thirdly, that it's not necessary for people to eat butter. Then what, under the sun, may I ask are you griping about?

If you are satisfied to deprive yourself of butter that's entirely your own affair. After all, we are living in a free country, therefore we can do as we please. May I point out that the price of butter is sadly out of proportion in comparison to the price of a pound of tea or coffee today.

No substitute anywhere in the world can begin to compare to butter be it for cooking, baking or a family spread. One pound of butter contains more food value than all the tasteless margarine put together. All of us know I am sure margarine is manufactured from edible oils. One may as well bring in some tractor oil and by using it as a spread probably get just as much food value.

The more we reach for food substitutes and turn our backs to the real, honest-to-goodness, down-to-earth foods, the more extensive will be the breakdown in a nation's health. After all what else can you expect?

We need only look to some of the under-nourished countries for proof what lack of essential food does to those people. Their average life span is drastically reduced. Their resistance is low, therefore, they are easy prey to disease. The price of butter supposedly is causing people to switch to margarine. The pennies you save now may be dearly bought by impaired health later on.

Back to A. A. Derrick's statement that people can do without butter. That works both ways. We can do without your fruit, too. That's beside the point though. In case you don't know it, in thousands of prairie homes our means to purchase your fruit is from the sale of butter. Any drastic reduction in the price would have far-reaching effects.

Every man and woman across this nation were able to purchase farm commodities below inflationary prices during the war and immediately pre-

ceding it because farmers accepted a price ceiling. We, the farmers, did our share. Now isn't it up to the government to carry out their end of the bargain?

I can read between the lines that A. A. Derrick would like to see the price of butter spiral down to rock bottom. Are you prepared to follow suit with your fruit? I understand that the fruit industry is protected by government price assistance. It is beyond the reach of many prairie dwellers. You speak of over-production of butter. Is there no surplus of fruit, then why was it necessary to dump 15,000 baskets of fruit in Ontario alone?

If you want to see another depression ushered in, the pleasure is all yours. I want no part of it!!

Mrs. Minnie Mack.

Langenburg, Sask.

Wheat Marketing

The Editor:

I have often wondered just why huge sums of money are quoted by almost every paper, magazine, etc., re the returns the farmers are getting. A great many people do not understand the cost of production and the very little a farmer gets out of the dollar. I think this a detriment to the well being of farming right across the country, and has great bearing on the welfare of farmers who find themselves in difficulties out of their control.

For instance, little sympathy is given the farmer who cannot sell grain to meet his living and working costs. Who is to blame? Do those people who know but little of farming conditions, blame the government? Why not advertise the fact the Wheat Board will not buy his grain, and also hold an iron hand on control of same.

Is it not time we had an overhaul in the system we now have of selling our grain? During the past 50 years to my knowledge the farmers have been bled almost out of existence several times by the grain trade. You have spent many years in this trade and if you really look at the ultimate in wheat sales you must see the bleeding of farmers in grading and dockage. The ultimate of wheat is to be consumed either by humans or stock feeds. This being the case, there can only be three or four grades of wheat. First, second, rarely third grade flour and feed. Grade it (feed) where and how the trade pleases, but it cannot be else but feed. I have heard it said this would not give any incentive to produce the best wheat. This is a poor argument as long as we sell pounds to the bushel measure. The heavier the wheat, the more one gets for it.

What a farce we have in the wheat grading business who know it! Some 230 or more possible grades. The farmer paying the graders from the elevators to the flour bins.

One may be a delegate to farmers' conventions and a great to do is made. Convention resolutions by the dozen may be passed, but just what resolutions are acted upon? Why the ones the board offers, of course, and who are the board? Men under pressure of the billion-dollar grain trade.

For myself I have long thought a bettering of the sale of wheat could be made by grading it according to flour standards, and wheat in the top six grades should not carry more than four per cent dockage at the elevators for any reason. More than this should be classed as feed. This would do away with a lot of inconsistency now in the trade. Farmers would clean their grain better, and weeds and grain mixtures would be very soon considerably reduced.

Buying grain from the farmer need not effect our export selling, but should effect selling for home consumption.

To help reduce our wheat stock at present, why not take all feed wheat off the market in co-operation with the U.S.A. Sell only feed wheat at cut-rate prices. Not too much cost for our government to bear to maintain one of the nation's great blood streams.

Farmers could also be allowed so much per acre for summerfallowing a certain percentage of the land they had in wheat in 1955. Mother Nature doesn't always come up with a good hand and soon we will be wondering what happened to wheat.

H. P. Hebber.

Carseland, Alta.

Dinsmore Show and Sale

THURSDAY, June 7, is the date of the Dinsmore, Sask., fat stock show and sale. The date is announced early to enable feeders to have their stock in shape. The event is sponsored by the 4H Booster Club, comprised of all 4-H beef clubs who attended the event, and the Dinsmore board of trade.

Although this stock show is held mainly for the purpose of showing 4-H calves and heifers, prizes are offered for fat stock shown by non-4H members. The sale is held to enable 4H clubs and farmers to dispose of fat stock at good prices. In past years the prices have always been above those received at the regular markets.

Construction in Canada during the first ten months of 1955 reached a total value of \$2,500,000,000.

Great Britain cannot be coerced into signing an international wheat agreement, said Graham Spry, Saskatchewan's agent general in the United Kingdom and Europe.

Approximately 165,000 head of cattle have been vaccinated against Bang's Disease in Saskatchewan since the government sponsored prevention program came into being several years ago, said Dr. T. V. Johnston, provincial veterinarian.

During the first ten months of 1955 sales of livestock through the Calgary stockyards had a total value of \$30,019,600. That sum was realized through the sale of 82,827 hogs, 209,042 cattle and calves, 9,283 sheep and lambs and 97 horses.

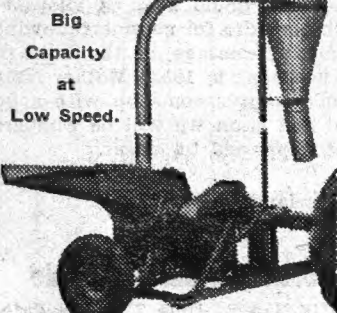
United Grain Growers Ltd. had a gross earnings of \$2,595,490 in the past business year. The net earnings totalled \$720,631 after deductions of \$675,000 for patronage dividends, provision for depreciation, income taxes, etc. Working capital was given at \$6,939,429 in the annual report and shareholders' equity at \$9,815,305, and capital assets amounted at cost to \$25,070,731, against which accumulated depreciation was \$11,370,670.

Bob Knowles, born in Rutland, Saskatchewan, has been promoted to supervisor of the CBC's farm and fisheries broadcast department. Bob is well known throughout the west as he was farm commentator at Winnipeg and Edmonton for some years.

The farmers' share of the retail price of butter has increased from 63 per cent in 1939 to almost 78 per cent in 1955. Butter returns to farmers a greater share of the consumer's dollar than does any other major farm product.

BUY NOW! SAVE 8%
FACTORY ANNOUNCES
PRICE INCREASE
SAVE UP TO \$65.00

OK-HAMMERMILLS



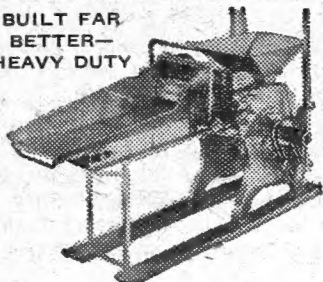
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- Big Capacity at Low Speed.
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No. 650 Power Take-Off HAMMERMILL DRIVE TRAILER
 Fits any mill — includes 2-6V groove pulleys — 6 matched V-belts, roller bearing wheels for 15" tires—Drop Centre Axle—less tires. F.O.B. Calgary **\$252.00**

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HEAVY DUTY



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 Model 113C—Combination 13" Hammer Mill and Cutterhead Mill, travelling feed table, automatic governor, grain hopper, 3-knife cutting head. **\$645.00**
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The Story Of The Delp Rocks



Mr. and Mrs. Lester Delp standing by shelves of mineral rock and other items of their collection.

By MRS. A. FRIESEN

FOUR miles east of the small village of Lone Rock, Saskatchewan, stands a neat farmhouse with brick siding. This is the farm home of Mr. and Mrs. Lester Delp. They are close to the rich oil wells of the Lloydminster district, but what they are interested in is not oil, but rocks. By that I do not mean ordinary stones, but an assortment of over two thousand specimens that come from the earth and the sea, from caves and mines and volcanoes. When you drive into the Delp yard, especially on Sundays, there will invariably be several cars ahead of you, drawn up to a paling on which is a sign: "Park Here".

They are a friendly, intelligent couple. There is no admission fee to see their huge collection, which is largely housed in a small building in the yard. They spend hours of their time, gratis, explaining to visitors the names and histories of the specimens and where they came from. The building, which has a full basement under it (also used as a storeroom for rocks) is approximately 12 x 20 with a hardwood floor. Each wall has a cupboard of built-in shelves with removable glass doors, and there are two glass showcases.

Valuable and Beautiful

There are mineral rocks, agates, crystals, pitchblende, pieces of asbestos, bauxite, uranium, volcanic glass, Indian arrowheads. The list seems endless!

These have been gathered from as far north as the Arctic circle, south as far as the Gulf of Mexico. It would take a book to describe them all in detail. These specimens have for the most part been classified by geologists and scientists. Some of them are worth a fortune. And some of them are of extraordinary beauty. One of the loveliest of the specimens that I saw was a translucent agate, its colors, deep and rich, suggestive of the interior of some old cathedral. There are also grape agates, shaped like clusters of pale violet grapes and opaque.

One of the most interesting things there is a sample of birds-eye bauxite. A Scotsman (whose name now escapes me) discovered aluminum in bauxite in 1876. The bauxite is an indefinite brownish tint with black and orange "eyes". There are some small, dainty red rubies from the mountains near Arroyo Seco, Mexico.

The Delps do practically all their own collecting. They spend about six months of the year travelling in various parts of Canada, the United States and Mexico. They spend long hours digging, searching and getting specimens classified before returning

home with them. This takes a tremendous amount of time, energy, and money. But they love it! It shows on their faces as they pass on their knowledge to those who visit their collection.

"Thunder Eggs"

Another specially beautiful rock is one that can be sawed into smooth, thin "slices" (Mr. Delp does his own sawing) and put together to form lamp shades and other ornaments. These "slices" are translucent when held against a light, the outer surface is coppery gold, the inner part an amazing array of colors and shapes. One held an almost perfect impression of a golden sward. These are the stones the Indians called "Thunder Eggs." It is really amazing the shapes and coloring found in these stones. One contained what appeared to be a red salmon in technicolor, small but amazingly life-like.

The volcanic glass specimens have a beauty of their own. Some are irregularly shaped, smooth and shining glass on their upper surfaces, deep brown in color, with black and reddish streaks through them. I also noted another one that was arresting. It is transparent, a sea-green color, inside a bobble is imprisoned. It is shaped oddly like a mummy. The Delps call it "Old King Tut."

I saw obsidian stones, the snowflake obsidian from Nevada, ebony black, with flecks of white in snowflake shapes. An obsidian from Sturgis, South Dakota, a deep coral red with horizontal stripes in tawny and gold shades.

From near Mexico came the malachite. It is of irregular shape and rough on the surface, but the coloring is striking. Turquoise blue, tan and greyish accents, with dots of white.

There are a large number called "geodes". These are actually hollow rocks of amethyst crystal. There are also stalagmites and stalactites from the Carlsbad Caverns in New Mexico. They remind one of figures carved from rust-flecked snow. There are dinosaur bones. These are pear-shaped meteorites, hard as rock, suggestive of elements from some other planet.

There are several sea shells; some delicately lovely, some with fluted edges, pale ivory, pale brown tints fading to pink.

Tree Burls

Other curiosities are the burls. These are actually diseased growths on trees, especially on the redwood trees in California. There the burls are used for making ornaments and table tops. Incidentally, you pay about three thousand dollars for such a table top. The species the Delps have

are not from the redwood, but from a pine tree in the Yukon, British Columbia. These are hard, round, smooth growths and make beautiful ornaments.

There are pieces of Indian pemican. These are shapeless, rough, dark chunks, unexpectedly light in weight.

All the specimens do not come from far distances. There are pieces of petrified wood, also petrified clams, that were found in Saskatchewan districts. Some from near Lashburn, from Waseca, Meota, all within a radius of a hundred miles from Lone Rock. There are a few arrowheads, rare ones. For instance, the thunderbird and turtle arrowheads, which are not often found. An irregularly-shaped chunk of amber also attracts the eye. It came from a place north of Goldfield, Nevada. It is rough and uneven, but inside is an extremely deep, beautiful amber color, streaked with lines of reddish gold. It is covered with a frosting of grey-white.

There is a sample of lapis lazuli. This was once the stone of royalty, and is now used in the manufacture of beads and small ornaments. It is blue or greenish blue, with flecks of yellow iron pyrites.

There is an amusing touch here and there. Such an instance is the piece of rock with roughly-hewn features suggestive of eyes, nose and mouth. A small, wooden pipe in the mouth adds the final touch. It is "Popeye"! Then there is a piece from the sea that looks like a set of false teeth that have been through fire. Whether this was once a set of sharks teeth is anyone's guess.

There is a fossil tooth—from Death Valley, California. It reminded me of the upper part of a small, very black candle.

Wonderful Collection

Among the smaller samples in one of the showcases, was a dogtooth spar and pyrites from the Lewis and Clark Cavern in Montana. They seem to be sharp, translucent white spikes, rising from beds of silvery crystal.

Since there are too many specimens to deal with I have cited the ones that appealed to me. But no matter what part of the collection most appeals to you, to see them all and to hear the intelligent and interesting explanation given by these two enthusiastic collectors is an education in itself. The wonderful works of creation are forcibly brought to mind by viewing these unusual creations.

Several teachers have brought their pupils to visit the Delp collection. The couple have spent much time explaining to them, giving unforgettable lessons in geology, geography, as well as history.

This large and varied collection is open to all visitors, free, as a public service. If you go out of your way to see it you will not regret it. It will be an interesting, instructive and unusual day for you.

Playing The Game

He played the game!

What finer epitaph can stand?

Or who can earn a finer fame

When Time at last has called the hand?

Regardless of the mocking roar,

Regardless of the final score,

To fight it out, raw blow for blow

Until you're time has come to go;

On out beyond all praise or blame,

To fight it out raw blow for blow,

Where Fate can write against your name

The closing line for friend or foe—

"He played the game!"

—Grantland Rice.



The optimist fell ten storeys,
At each window bar
He shouted to his friends,
"Everything's okay so far."

An old colored preacher who was
baptizing his flock by immersion noticed
one man who seemed to hold
back. "Is you baptized, brother?" he
asked.

"Yes, I've been baptized."
"An' who baptized you?"
"Why, de Epescopal done baptize
me."

"Why, brotheh," exclaimed the
preacher, "that wahn't no baptism —
dat wuz jes' dry cleanin'!"

There was a man in our town
And he was wondrous wise;
He swore (it was his policy)
He would not advertise.
But one day he did advertise,
And thereby hangs a tale,
The ad was set in quite small type,
And headed "Sheriff's Sale."

A stranger entered a restaurant in
an Alberta town and sourly asked
what was on the menu.

"Pheasant," said the waiter, "It's
a game bird that is thick around
here."

"Has it got wings?" the visitor en-
quired.

"Of course it's got wings."

"Then I don't want it. I don't want
anything that's got wings and still
stays around here."

A doctor fell in a well,
And broke his collar bone.
A doctor should attend the sick
And leave the well alone.

The hostess was sitting with one of
her guests on the lawn listening to a
chimes recital in a nearby church.

"They're beautiful, aren't they," she
said.

"Pardon," inquired the guest.

"I said, they're beautiful aren't
they?"

"I'm sorry," roared the guest, "but
I can't hear a word for those damn
bells!"

I sat my peas with honey
I've done it all my life
They taste a little funny,
But it keeps them on my knife.

"What a strange looking cow," said
the sweet young city thing to the
farmer, "why hasn't she got any
horns?"

"Well, you see," said the farmer,
patiently, "some cows we dehorn,
some cows are born without horns and
some cows shed 'em. There's lots of
reasons why some cows don't have
horns. But the reason that cow ain't
got horns is because she's not a cow
—she's a mule."

Beneath the spreading chestnut tree
The smith works like the deuce,
For now he's selling gasoline,
Hot dogs and orange juice.

Woman, woman lovely woman —
Isn't she fair and sweet?
She wears more clothes when she
goes to bed

Than she does upon the street.

Values

My neighbor has so many things
While I have almost none at all.
Rugs, chairs and tables fit for kings,
She has so many lifeless things.
Perhaps that's why she never sings,
And never hears the thrushes' call —
My neighbor has so many things
She has no happtness at all.

Agriculture in U. S. A.

THIS season farmers in the United
States seeded 353 million acres to
59 principal crops. Although the
acreage is down by one million from
last year, the decline is offset by
bumper crops.

The wheat crop is placed at around
911 million bushels, but the carryover
was 1,020 million, so that total sup-
plies will be around 1,931 million
bushels, an all-time high.

The corn crop may reach 3,500,000
million bushels, close to the 1949
record figures. The total feed grain
supply is expected to be an all-time
high as carryovers were large.

The pig crop last spring was up
9 per cent over the previous year.
This autumn's pig crop is expected to
be up 11 per cent, and the largest
since 1943. Cattle on feed and poultry
and egg production are at record
levels and milk production at near-
record.

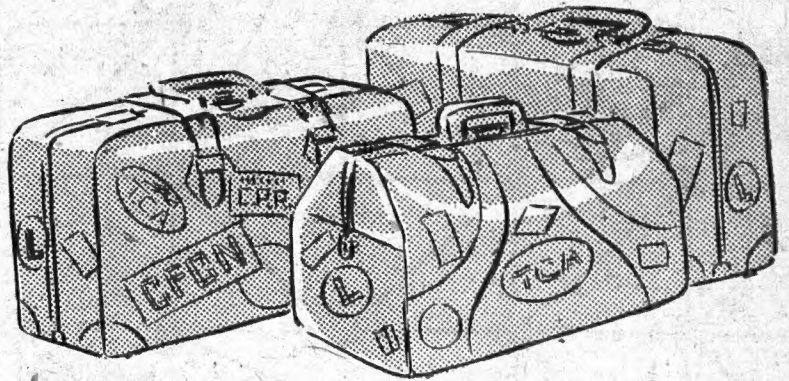
Farm prices are expected to de-
cline. The index is down 24 per cent
from the high peak in February,
1951. There was a decline of 4 points
from July 1, 1954, to July 1, 1955.
The net income of U.S. farmers in
1955 is expected to be around \$11
billions as compared with \$12 billions
in 1954.

Solution to crossword puzzle

S	P	E	E	S	T	E	A	M	S	L	A	T	S	S	O	R	A		
M	O	R	S	E	P	A	R	S	E	H	E	R	O	N	P	R	E	S	
A	L	A	N	S	R	I	G	T	E	E	E	R	A	R	A	I	S	E	
D	O	M	E	S	A	L	D	E	L	L	S	E	R	I	N	N	E	R	
E	A	T	M	E	R	I	T	E	D	L	A	T							
D	E	S	E	R	T	D	I	N	S	E	M	U	S	R	E	A	S	O	N
A	V	E	R	T	P	I	N	T	W	R	I	T	E	R	S	I	E	G	E
T	E	R	N	P	A	R	E	L	I	Y	E	A	R	D	A	L	E		
E	N	E	T	A	R	E	M	A	N	E	T	D	R	I	P	L	E	D	
S	A	I	C	F	I	D	D	L	E	R	E	L	O	N					
P	O	S	T	U	R	E	I	D	E	A	N	O	A	E	T	A	P	E	S
E	L	A	I	N	L	O	N	G	D	U	M	A	A	B	U	R	A		
T	A	I	N	T	S	F	E	E	S	M	E	T	L	A	B	O	R	E	D
T	E	A	S	S	T	A	T	U	R	E	B	U	L	B					
B	A	T	D	I	P	S	S	P	O	T	S	P	I	K	E	P	A	T	
A	R	E	S	L	A	P	S	R	E	C	A	N	S	B	O	L	O		
R	E	L	I	C	S	E	T	T	E	P	O	L	O	M	O	R	O	N	
B	A	L	S	A	M	T	A	R	S	L	U	T	E	D	O	N	K	E	Y
R	O	C	G	A	T	H	E	R	S	M	I	D							
C	I	G	A	R	O	B	M	A	U	V	E	R	I	D	L	E	R		
E	N	N	U	I	M	O	T	T	E	E	O	A	T	S	E	I	N	E	
L	I	A	N	E	B	A	R	G	E	R	I	D	G	E	T	E	N	D	S
A	T	T	S	S	T	I	E	S	S	T	E	E	R	E	R	G	S		

CFCN

Covers the Country



CFCN's Staff Members—

travel thousands of miles every year to bring you
on-the-spot accounts of events, small and great.

Ross Henry—

may cover a stock sale at Okotoks one week, and
the next week, as he recently did, make a 2,000-
mile journey to the Royal Winter Fair in Toronto.

William N. Love—

C F C N news director, just recently went to Den-
ver, Colorado, to attend the National Association
of Radio and Television News Directors' Conven-
tion, where the latest and best techniques in news
coverage were discussed.

Henry Viney—

C F C N's sports director, covered the Grey Cup
football final in Vancouver, as he has done in other
outstanding local and national sports events.

CFCN's Staff—

travel to bring its audience the best service in news
and views of farming and ranching, current hap-
penings in local, national and world events, and
full sports coverage.



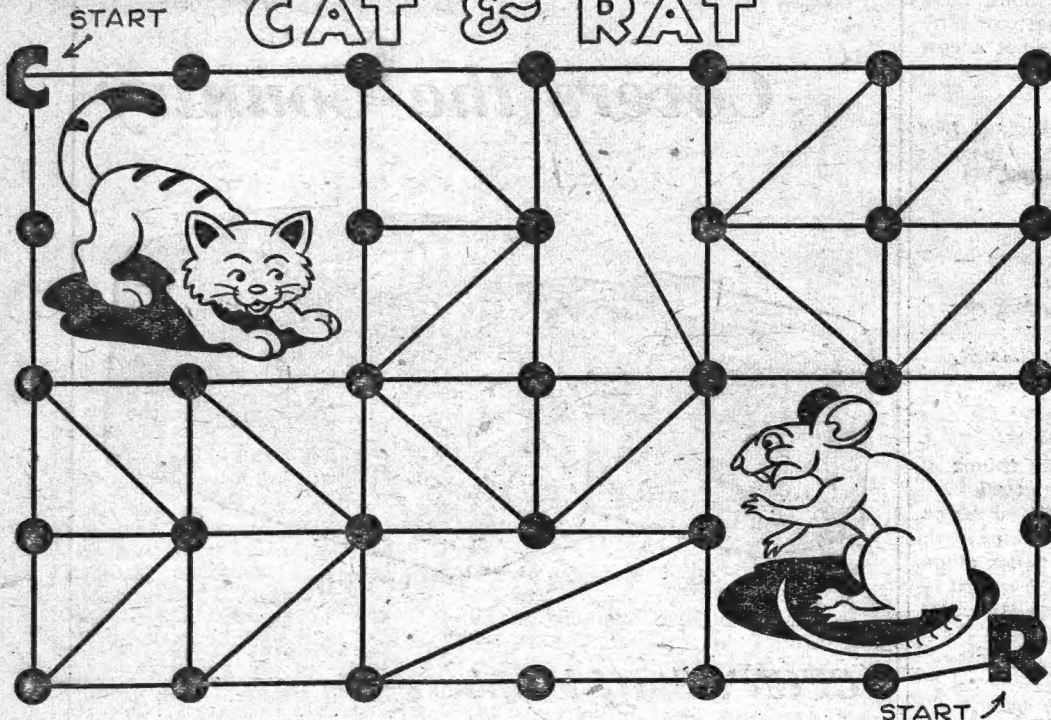
CALGARY

FUNLAND

by **A.W. NUGENT**
THE WORLD'S
LEADING
PUZZLEMAKER

THE FAMILY ENTERTAINER

CAT & RAT



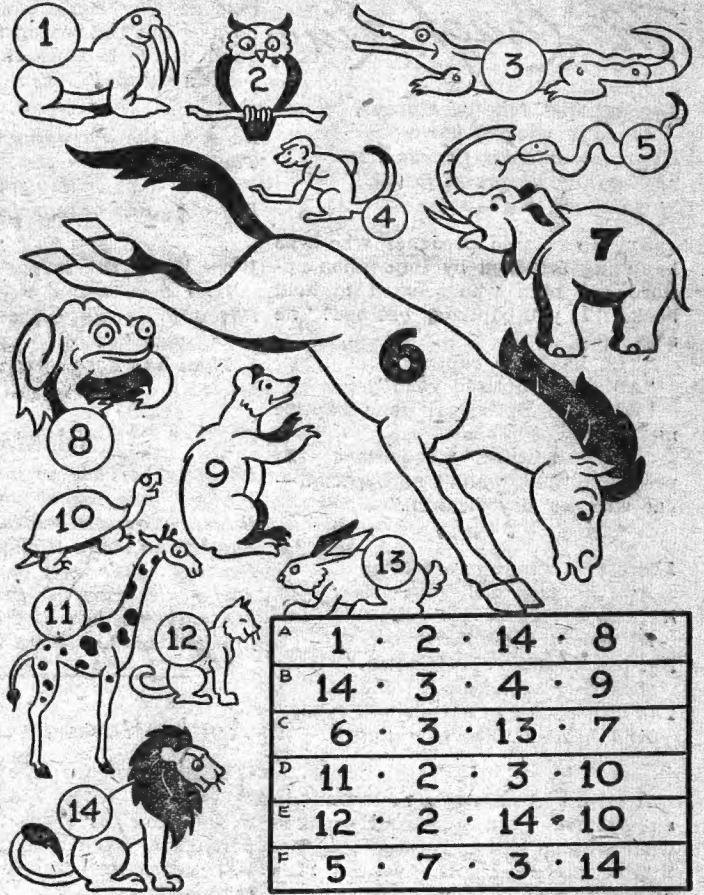
TWO PERSONS CAN PLAY THIS INTERESTING GAME. YOU WILL NEED TWO SMALL BUTTONS OR COUNTERS OF DIFFERENT SHAPES OR COLORS TO PLACE ONE ON THE "C" TO REPRESENT THE CAT AND ONE ON THE "R," THE RAT'S STARTING POINT.

THE OBJECT OF THE GAME IS TO CAPTURE YOUR OPPONENT BY FORCING HIM TO MOVE ON A DOT WHERE YOU CAN LAND DIRECTLY ON HIM BY MAKING YOUR NEXT MOVE. TAKE TURNS MOVING ALONG A LINE TO THE NEXT DOT TO COMPLETE EACH MOVE. 1-2-55

EACH NUMBER IN THE LOWER-RIGHT CORNER, READING ACROSS, REPRESENTS THE INITIAL LETTER OF THE PICTURE INDICATED BY THE SAME NUMBER.

FOR EXAMPLE: 13, RABBIT 3, ALLIGATOR AND 10, TURTLE WILL SPELL RAT.

IF YOU PRINT THE CORRECT INITIALS, IN THEIR ORDER, THEY WILL SPELL SIX ANIMALS.

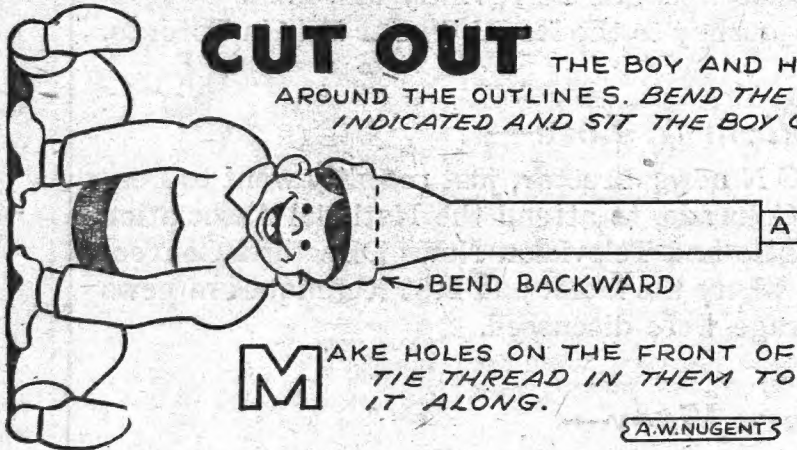


A	1 · 2 · 14 · 8 ·
B	14 · 3 · 4 · 9
C	6 · 3 · 13 · 7
D	11 · 2 · 3 · 10
E	12 · 2 · 14 · 10
F	5 · 7 · 3 · 14

A. WOLF B. LAMB C. HARE D. GOAT E. COLT F. SEAL.

CUT OUT

THE BOY AND HIS SLED
AROUND THE OUTLINES. BEND THE PARTS AS
INDICATED AND SIT THE BOY ON THE SLED.



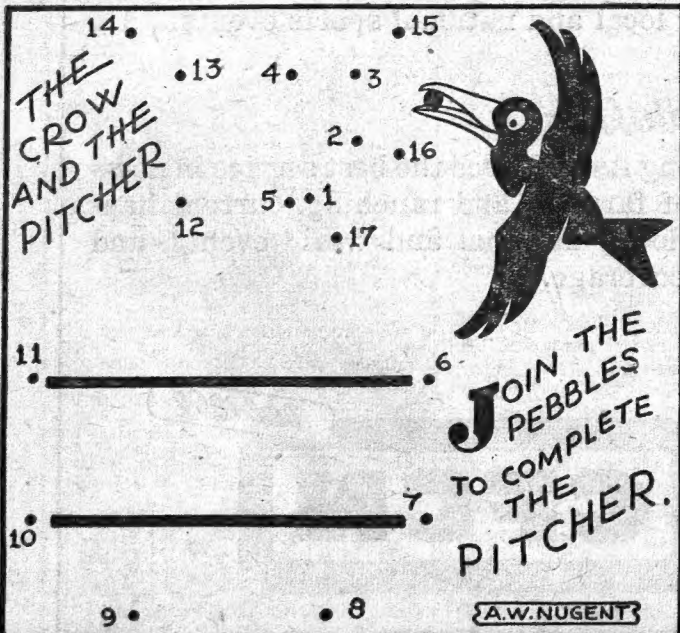
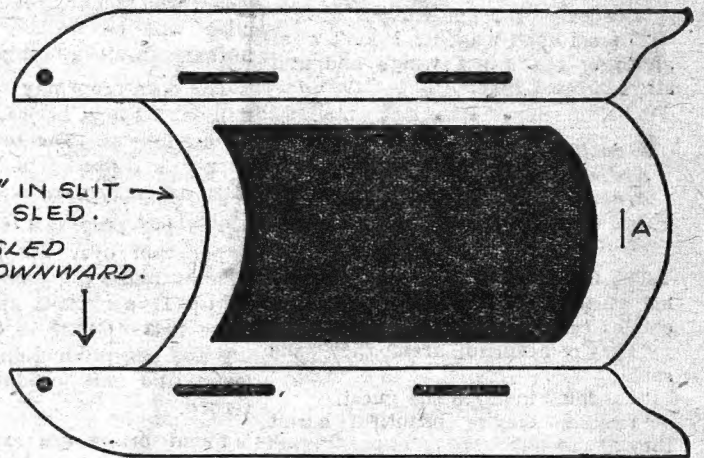
INSERT TAB "A" IN SLIT
"A" ON THE SLED.

BEND THE SLED
SIDES DOWNWARD.

MAKE HOLES ON THE FRONT OF THE SLED.
TIE THREAD IN THEM TO PULL
IT ALONG.

A.W. NUGENT

1-2-55



A.W. NUGENT

CHANGE ONE LETTER IN
EACH WORD TO SPELL
5 OBJECTS USED IN SCHOOL.



PEN, PAD, DESK, INK, NIB.

